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65



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ABOUT THE DRAFT

By Larry Felser

The edge.

It's what every pro football coach wants.

Some scheme for it. Others scan the waiver wires and free-agent market for it. Some even cheat for it.

But the biggest edge of all is available, equally, to each of the pro coaches each winter. It's the college player draft.

"Draft day," says one NFL general manager, "is the most important day of the year for most teams, whether they realize it or not."

What he meant was that a team can replenish itself on draft day. The weak, theoretically, can get strong again. The talent can be evened out, since the last draft first and the first last in the NFL's inverse ratio of rewarding ill fortune.

The National Football League Players' Association suggests the draft is a bunch of malarky, a means of keeping players in bondage. It points to New Orleans, the New York Giants and Chicago as examples of teams which

often draft low—and keep finishing low.

The courts have suggested that the draft may be illegal, in that it deprives a rookie of his freedom of choice.

Management, itself, fears the draft may be wiped out by legal edict. "What's a future draft choice worth anyways?" asked an NFL coach when another team was attempting to deal him a choice for a veteran player. "We may not have another draft after this year's."

If that happens, the NFL establishment thinks there will be chaos, with the good teams perpetuating their place in their standing by pirating all the top rookies in a free market.

How did the draft get started, anyway?

It all began over a Minnesota fullback named Stanley Kostka back in 1934.

Bert Bell, later to become commissioner of the NFL, owned the Philadelphia Eagles then. He went out to Minnesota to sign Kostka after phoning him to ask if he would sign with the Eagles providing Bell topped all previous offers. Kostka said yes.

"When I got out there," said Bell, "I asked him his top offer. He said it was \$3,500. I offered him \$4,000. Instead of agreeing, he hemmed and hawed. He wanted more time, he said, to think it over. I figured he wanted to use it to make calls to see if the other offers would go up.

"Finally I offered him \$6000 to sign so I could go home. He hedged again and I left. All the way home I thought about that back-and-forth business. I decided that our league wouldn't survive without some system in which each team had an even chance to bid for talent.

"The rich clubs were winning all the championships.

"The Bears, the Packers and

the Giants passed the NFL title around among them."

At the NFL's annual meeting in 1934, Bell proposed that there be a college player draft. There was a debate, but the owners finally agreed it had to be. It was to go in effect for the 1936 season.

In a not-so-ironical twist, Bell's Eagles finished last and got to draft first. They always seemed to finish last. The first player drafted in the first draft was All-America halfback Jay Berwanger of the University of Chicago, which played big-time football then.

Bell promptly traded the rights to Berwanger to the Bears for five players.

Berwanger never did play pro football. He turned down Chicago's offer for a career in business.

Things have changed since then. When Pittsburgh and Dallas lined up against each other in the last Super Bowl, 36 of the starters, 19 for the Steelers and 17 for the Cowboys, came to their teams through the draft.

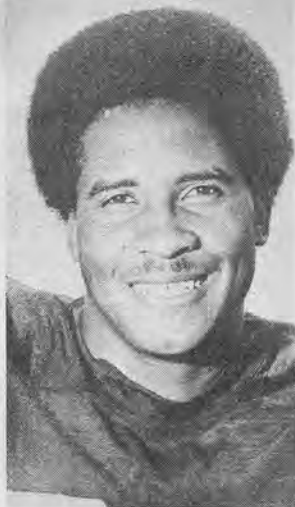
The 1971 draft alone produced

KEN SHIPP OK'd Richard Todd and Jets made him Number 1 draft choice.



JOE THOMAS, Colts' general manager, built three teams via the draft route.





LYNN SWANN was Steelers pick in '74 when they drafted low (21st).

JACK LAMBERT (58), ERNIE HOLMES (63), and L.C. GREENWOOD (68), were a few more stars Pitt had to "settle for".



seven starters for Pittsburgh, four of them on the team's fabled defensive unit.

The No. 1 pick that year was Frank Lewis, who was a starting wide receiver. The second selection was all-pro outside linebacker Jack Ham.

The Steelers had two fourth-round picks that year. They were redeemed for all-pro defensive end Dwight White and guard Gerry Mullins, probably the team's best offensive lineman.

Starting tight end Larry Brown came in Round 5 and Ernie Holmes, the fabulously strong defensive tackle, was selected in Round 8.

Mike Wagner, the strong-side safety who played in the Pro Bowl, was a steal in Round 11.

The draft is a "some do, but some don't" proposition. The Steelers are a "do" team. The '71 selections were not just a one-year phenomenon with them.

In 1974, after a playoff season, the Steelers drafted very low, 21st. When they got to pick in Round 1, after New Orleans had taken Rick Middleton, Minnesota Steve Riley, Green Bay Barty Smith and San Diego Bo Matthews, the Steelers had to "settle for" a wide receiver from Southern Cal named Lynn Swann.

In the second round they

sought a linebacker. Eight already had been taken, so their compensation was a skinny kid from Kent State named Jack Lambert.

In the last Super Bowl the guy making all those fantastic catches and winning the most valuable player award was Swann. The all-pro middle linebacker dominating the defensive play was Lambert.

The '60 draft was another case in point. The Pittsburgh fans, sick of stodgy offense, wanted the team to draft a slick receiver like Ron Sellers of Florida State or Jim Seymour of Notre Dame. Instead the Steelers opted for a defensive tackle from North Texas State. A Pittsburgh newspaper sent a reporter into the street to gather the disgusted reaction of fans. The story was headlined "Joe Who?"

They know now. Joe's last name is Greene.

In the 10th round that year they also hit paydirt with another defensive lineman from little Arkansas AM&N. His name is L. C. Greenwood.

On the other hand, some teams can't seem to do anything right in the draft. The New York Giants are a "don't" team.

When the Giants were among the cream of the NFL in the late

'50s and early '60s, the team was built through a combination of sharp trading and sound drafting.

Trades brought players like Andy Robustelli, the Hall of Fame defensive end; wide receivers Del Shofner and Bob Schnelker and linebacker Harland Svare. Such stars as Frank Gifford, Kyle Rote, Sam Huff and Jim Patton were acquired in the draft.

But the sharper the Giants got in trades, the more wary their NFL brethren were to deal with them, afraid to be stung. The trade mart dried up. That left the draft, but suddenly the Giants lost their touch.

The Giants' fortunes sank with their draft mistakes. While other teams picked future all-pros, the Giants saddled themselves with first-round lemons like Rocky Thompson, Eldridge Small and Larry Jacobson.

There weren't enough drafts like the '74 draw, when they selected guards John Hicks and Tom Mullen 1-2, to get the Giants out of their rut.

Art Rooney Jr., the Steelers' personnel director, sympathizes with such losers, pointing out that luck plays a large part in the draft.

In 1971, the Philadelphia Eagles drafted Richard Harris, a



RICHARD TODD, 6-2, 201-pound QB, completed Alabama U career—1254 yards rushing and 16 TDs; completed 101 passes, 1642 yards, 16 TDs.

highly-regarded defensive lineman from Grambling who was considered a sure thing by many pro scouts. Harris turned out to be less than a journeyman and he's now with the Chicago Bears.

"We were going to draft Harris," says Rooney. "We thought he would be a good pro lineman for 10 years. The Eagles beat us to it."

Instead Pittsburgh drafted Harris' Grambling teammate, Frank Lewis, who is still a game-breaking receiver. It wasn't until the fourth round that they tried for another defensive lineman. He turned out to be Dwight White of East Texas, now an all-pro end.

"The same thing happened in '69," says Rooney. "We wanted Leroy Keyes, the Purdue running back. But the Eagles made him the second pick of the draft, right behind O. J. Simpson. We took Joe Greene on the fourth pick."

Keyes was a legendary flop.

George Allen is famous for trading draft choices for veteran players in his "Future is Now" program. But it's a risky proposition. Svare tried it when he was General Manager at San Diego and it turned into a disaster. Mike McCormack tried to satisfy an impatient owner and fans in Philadelphia with a similar program and it resulted in roster bankruptcy.

"The problem with trading

away draft choices is that it is a short-term proposition," says Gil Brandt, personnel chief for Dallas, which hardly ever does that.

Even Allen concentrates energy on the draft.

"We look at the draft differently," he says. "We want to know everything about the players available in the middle and lower rounds."

The Redskins' first choice came in the fifth round last year. They used it for Mike Thomas, a halfback for Nevada-Las Vegas. He was the NFL's rookie of the year.

"The draft," says Joe Thomas, the Baltimore General manager, in reply to its critics, "is not a guarantee for a team. It's an opportunity. How well you do in it depends upon your ability."

Thomas should know. He's built three teams via the draft route—Minnesota, Miami and Baltimore.

He saw some potential in a little Georgia quarterback back in 1960, so he picked Fran Tarkenton on the third round for Minnesota. With Miami, he passed up Heisman Trophy winner Steve Spurrier, a Florida folk hero, to take Bob Griese. He didn't agree with the majority of scouts who said the big guy from Syracuse was too slow to make it as an NFL fullback so he picked Larry Csonka.

In Baltimore he built a defensive line in two years, selecting tackles Joe Ehrmann and Mike Barnes in one year and ends John Dutton and Fred Cook in another.

In the early days of the draft the NFL teams arrived at the meeting equipped with little more than Street & Smith's College Football Yearbook. The story is that the Steelers drafted their bonus pick—the first pick in the draft in those days was awarded by coin flip—Gary Glick, that way in 1956.

Thomas and his contemporaries are more scientific, and far more detailed in their background work.

For instance the New York Jets dispatched their interim head coach, Ken Shipp, to the Senior Bowl last January to make a last-minute check on

Richard Todd, the Alabama quarterback whom they had been tracking all year.

Shipp's assignment was specific. Todd was known to have a speech impediment and the coach's job was to decide whether it would be too large a handicap.

No one at the University of Alabama seemed willing to admit to the Jets that Todd stuttered. A check with casual acquaintances in Birmingham could elicit no better information.

When Shipp introduced himself to Todd at the Senior Bowl the youngster mentioned to the coach that Ken must have known his mother, since both were from Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Given that opening, Shipp contacted Mrs. Todd. In their conversation he mentioned Richard's stuttering. "He still has it" she confirmed, "but it hasn't bothered him lately. It only comes up when he's dealing with strangers or is thrown into new and uncomfortable situations."

Todd will see a lot of strangers in the NFL and the new and uncomfortable situations will be legion. But the Jets were satisfied. They drafted Todd No. 1.

There are times when the scouts rely too heavily on scientific aides instead of their intuition.

"The important factor is the skill of the scout, not the accumulated information," says George Young of Miami. "You see things with your eyes, then you let the numbers influence you and you're in trouble. You look at a guy and decide he's good. Then you put the stopwatch on him and he's a fraction of a second slower than you thought. You measure him and he's an inch shorter than you figured."

"None of that should make any difference. You should be able to make up your mind. Is he a football player or isn't he?"

The NFL scouts' collective track record on their judgment is pretty good. There were 30 first-round choices in last January's Pro Bowl.

But Upton Bell, Bert's son who served Baltimore as personnel director and New England as general manager, says it isn't the

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AFC CHAMPIONSHIP

At Pittsburgh, Pa. Jan. 4, 1976

PITTSBURGH	0	3	0	13-16
OAKLAND	0	0	0	10-10

SCORING**SECOND QUARTER**

Pittsburgh—Gerela, 36-yard field goal (after Wagner interception, runback to Pitt 48).

FOURTH QUARTER

Pittsburgh—Harris, 25-yard run (after Lambert recovered Davis fumble on Pitt 30). Gerela PAT.
Oakland—Siani, 14-yard pass from Stabler, Blanda PAT.

Pittsburgh—Stallworth, 20-yard pass from Bradshaw. Kick failed (Gerela tried drop-kick after Walden fumbled center-snap).
Oakland—Blanda, 42-yard field goal.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Oakland—Davis, 13 for 29; Hubbard, 10 for 30; Banaszak, 8 for 33; Phillips, 1 for 1.
Pittsburgh—Harris, 27 for 79; Bleier, 10 for 16; Bradshaw, 2 for 22.
PASSING—Oakland—Stabler, 18 of 42, 246 yards; Pittsburgh—Bradshaw, 15 of 25, 215 yards; 3 interceptions.
RECEIVING—Oakland—Moore, 2 for 12; Siani, 5 for 80, 1 TD; Banaszak, 2 for 12; Davis, 1 for 3; Hart, 1 for 16; Casper, 5 for 67; Branch, 2 for 56.
Pittsburgh—Lewis, 1 for 33; L. Brown, 1 for 13; Harris, 5 for 58, 1 TD; Grossman, 4 for 36; Swann, 2 for 45; Stallworth, 2 for 30, 1 TD.

TEAM STATISTICS

	Oakland	Pittsburgh
First downs	18	16
Rushes-Yards	32-93	39-117
Passing yardage	228	215
Return yardage	90	121
Passes-Att., Comp., Int.	42-18-2	28-15-3
Punts	8-37.8	4-38.5
Fumbles-Lost	4-3	5-5
Penalties-Yards	4-40	3-32

ATTENDANCE—49,103

OFFICIALS—Referee, Ben Dreith; Umpire, Art Demas; Line Judge, Bruce Alford; Linesman, Tony Vetter; Back Judge, Pat Knight; Field Judge, Pat Mallette.

SUPER BOWL X

At Miami, Fla. Jan. 18, 1976

DALLAS	7	3	0	7-17
PITTSBURGH	7	0	0	14-21

SCORING**FIRST QUARTER**

Dallas—D. Pearson, 29-yard pass from Staubach (after Walden tackled at Pitt 29 on fumbled punt-snap). Fritsch PAT.
Pittsburgh—Grossman, 7-yard pass from Bradshaw (after 67 yards, 8 plays). Gerela PAT.

SECOND QUARTER

Dallas—Fritsch, 36-yard field goal.

FOURTH QUARTER

Pittsburgh—Harrison, safety, blocked Hoopes' punt, ball bounded past end line. Gerela, 36-yard field goal. Gerela, 18-yard field goal. Swann, 64-yard pass from Bradshaw. Gerela PAT (Kick hit goal post).

Dallas—P. Howard, 34-yard pass from Staubach (after 80 yards, 5 plays). Fritsch PAT.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Pittsburgh—Harris, 27 for 82; Bleier, 15 for 51; Bradshaw, 4 for 16.
Dallas—Newhouse, 16 for 56; Dennison, 5 for 16; P. Pearson, 5 for 14; Staubach, 5 for 22.
PASSING—Pittsburgh—Bradshaw, 9 of 19, 209 yards. Dallas—Staubach, 15 of 24, 204 yards, 3 interceptions.
RECEIVING—Pittsburgh—Swann, 4 for 161, 1 TD; Grossman, 1 for 7, 1 TD; Stallworth, 2 for 8; L. Brown, 1 for 7; Harris, 1 for 26.
Dallas—D. Pearson, 2 for 59; Fugett, 1 for 9; Dennison, 1 for 6; P. Pearson, 5 for 53; Young, 3 for 31; Newhouse, 2 for 12; P. Howard, 1 for 34, 1 TD.

TEAM STATISTICS

	Dallas	Pittsburgh
First downs	14	13
Rushes-Yards	31-108	46-149
Passing yardage	162	190
Return yardage	101	209
Passes-Att., Comp., Int.	24-15-3	19-9-0
Punts-Average	7-35.0	4-39.8
Fumbles-Lost	4-0	4-0
Penalties-Yards	2-20	0-0

ATTENDANCE—80,197

OFFICIALS—Referee, Norm Schachter; Umpire, Joe Connell; Line Judge, Jack Fette; Linesman, Leo Miles; Back Judge, Stan Javie; Field Judge, Bill O'Brien.

STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL**NFC CHAMPIONSHIP**

At Los Angeles, Cal. Jan. 4, 1976

DALLAS	7	14	13	3-37
LOS ANGELES	0	0	0	7-7

SCORING**FIRST QUARTER**

Dallas—P. Pearson, 18-yard pass from Staubach (after Lewis interception). Fritsch PAT.

SECOND QUARTER

Dallas—Richards, 4-yard pass from Staubach (after 76 yards, 9 plays). Fritsch PAT. P. Pearson, 15-yard pass from Staubach (after 67 yards, 8 plays). Fritsch PAT.

THIRD QUARTER

Dallas—P. Pearson, 19-yard pass from Staubach (after 69 yards, 9 plays). Fritsch PAT. Fritsch, 40-yard field goal. Fritsch, 26-yard field goal.

FOURTH QUARTER

Los Angeles—Cappaletti, 1-yard plunge (after 65 yards, 6 plays, plus 35-yard interference penalty). Dallas—Fritsch, 26-yard field goal.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Dallas—Dennison, 6 for 30; Newhouse, 6 for 20; P. Pearson, 6 for 15; Staubach, 4 for 21; Fugett, 1 for 5.
Los Angeles—McCutcheon, 8 for 11; Jaworski, 1 for 7; Scribner, 1 for 1.
PASSING—Dallas—Staubach, 10 of 16, 149 yds., 1 interception.
Los Angeles—Jaworski, 5 of 13, 82 yds., 1 interception. Harris, 0 of 2, 1 interception.
RECEIVING—Dallas—P. Pearson, 4 for 64, 2 TDs; Richards, 2 for 46, 1 TD; D. Pearson, 2 for 25; Dennison, 1 for 11; Fugett, 1 for 3.
Los Angeles—Jessie, 2 for 28; Bryant, 1 for 28; McCutcheon, 1 for 14; Nelson, 1 for 12.

TEAM STATISTICS

	Dallas	Los Angeles
First downs	24	9
Rushes-Yards	50-195	16-22
Passing yardage	246	96
Return yardage	115	207
Passes-Att., Comp., Int.	28-18-1	11-24-3
Punts	4-34.8	7-35.4
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	5-59	4-25

ATTENDANCE—84,483

OFFICIALS—Referee, Tom Bell; Umpire, Pat Harder; Line Judge, Bill Watson; Linesman, Ed Marion; Back Judge, Tom Kelleher; Field Judge, Dick Dolack.

Schedules**Selectors' Chart****● MID-WEST**

BIG TEN
MID AMERICAN • OHIO
By Paul Hornung

● THE EAST

IVY LEAGUE
YANKEE CONF.
MIDDLE ATLANTIC
PENNSYLVANIA CONF.
By Arnie Burdick

● ATLANTIC and SOUTHERN

SOUTH ATLANTIC
CENTRAL INT. A.A.
MIDEAST • SWAC
By Smith Barrier

● SOUTHEASTERN

GULF SOUTH
By Tom Siler

● SOUTHWEST

LONE STAR • SOUTHLAND
By Pat Truly

● BIG EIGHT

MISSOURI VALLEY
By Del Black

● THE ROCKIES

WESTERN ATHLETIC
By John Mooney

● PACIFIC EIGHT

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FAR WESTERN • PC A.A.
By Dwight Chapin

● NORTHWEST

BIG SKY
By John Blanchette

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OPEN MARKET

Sunday afternoon in November. There is a chill and on the football field below one figure is Public Enemy No. 1. He stoops over, flutters his fingers and takes a football into his hands. He dances backwards, hurriedly, raises his arms and propels the football toward another figure streaking 25 yards away. But between the two figures, a third man cuts in and catches the football.

Booooo! Pass interception. Public Enemy No. 1 grimaces, unsnaps his chin strap, says "Gol dang" and heads toward his bench to the tune of a monotone chorus provided by the home fans. Booooo!

The scenario is a splotch on the universe as created by Pete Rozelle. It is part of passion plays performed each autumnal Sunday in the concrete and steel stadiums of America's largest cities. It offers a perspective on a perpetually topical subject: The Quarterback Mystique.

A pro football philosopher once

stated: "Quarterbacks receive too much credit when their teams win and too much blame when their teams lose." It is a truism.

The quarterback is a love-hate target. Those who have won championships have been jeered and cheered. Quite often in different portions of the same game. No athlete is so revered and so abused as the quarterback.

These creatures who play the most delicate position in football consequently become vagabonds. They travel, they sulk, they groan, they ache—and on Sunday they can become the enemy while playing for the home team.

"Quarterbacks make good copy," says Bud Grant, the stoic ice statue who coaches the Vikings, with cool disdain.

Bud Grant really hasn't regarded quarterbacks with due respect until just recently. There is good reason. Francis Tarkenton.

Of the 13,441 circuitous journeys clocked in his career, Tar-

kenton's trip from Minnesota to New York and back again was the most routine.

It set off certain subsequent events which are procedural in *The Quarterback Mystique*.

Tarkenton was traded to the Giants. Gary Cuozzo had been with the Colts and Saints and was traded to the Vikings. Then the Vikings brought Joe Kapp in from Canada. He defected and the Vikings traded him to the Patriots. Now the Vikings needed another quarterback to take them to the Super Bowl. They traded to get Norm Snead from the Eagles. Neither Cuozzo nor Snead could take the Vikings to the Super Bowl. So they shopped some more. Tarkenton had become a mini-folkhero in New York, where Joe Namath cavorted with a maxi-flamboyant style. He sulked and the Vikings, so desperate for a quarterback, traded for Francis Tarkenton. He had left in feuding anger with disparagement torturing his ears. He

FRAN TARKENTON, set behind center Mike Tinglehoff, gets ball and hands off to Chuck Foreman for gain, but



ON QB'S By Jerry Green

returned with Minneapolis streets covered with rose petals. All was well and the Vikings traded Snead to the Giants and Cuzzo to St. Louis.

And returning hero Tarkenton went 7-7 in his first season back in Minnesota.

These odysseys are not extraordinary. Tarkenton's two backup quarterbacks are Bob Berry and Bob Lee. Berry played in Minnesota and was traded to Atlanta. He became No. 1 in Atlanta and was happy. Bob Lee was unhappy as Tarkenton's backup in Minnesota. He played out his option in Minnesota and was traded to Atlanta. The Vikings got Bob Berry in the deal. The same Bob Berry. Last year the Falcons became disenchanted with Lee. He was cut and signed elsewhere. Where else but with Minnesota? It is perfectly routine.

So the mercantile Vikings, prominent in the quarterback mart, begin 1976 with three Gypsy quarterbacks on their roster.

Fran indicates inches for a first down.



There is Fran Tarkenton, now king of the quarterbacks, who started there, traveled and returned home all forgiven. And there are Berry and Lee, who both traveled to Atlanta and once were traded for each other, and now have adjoining lockers.

Grant is correct: quarterbacks do make good copy.

Fran Tarkenton, as an elder now, has his own theory about The Quarterback Mystique. He believes a quarterback isn't worth a hoot until he is past 30. Only then, Fran insists, is the quarterback sufficiently mature to become inured to the flak from the fickle public backslappers and headshrinkers. He used himself as the primary case example. He had become a winner at age 33 after two trades in his job resume.

"Every quarterback has got critics," Francis said. "That is why quarterbacks are able to do more after 30. Before that, if you win it's nice, if you lose it isn't. And when you lose, the people criticize you.

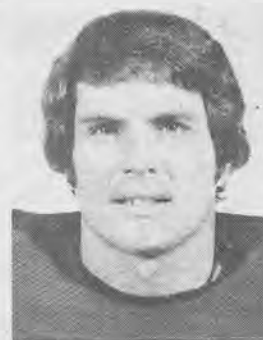
"When you're younger, you're wondering why people don't like you. You hear you can't throw deep, you can't read defenses, you can't lead the team. Look at the young quarterbacks. Dan Pastorini, Jim Plunkett with New England, quarterbacks who are struggling along. I doubt if Pastorini and Plunkett are going to win with the teams they're with now. They're going to be caught by the same syndrome.

"It's historic. I've always busted my butt, but it happened to me. Look at Sonny Jurgensen, he never won. Bill Kilmer, now a great quarterback. Y.A. Tittle is the classic example, those years in San Francisco and finally a winner in New York. They were all traded around and didn't start winning until they were in their 30s. Not many quarterbacks stay with the same team throughout their careers.

"I've seen a lot of quarterbacks beaten down. It happens to a lot of kids who never play after their 20s. Look at Earl Morrall. There never has been a passer more abused than Earl Morrall when he was in his 20s."

Fran Tarkenton the prophet, the sage, the clairvoyant. Jim Plunkett this past spring demanded that the Patriots trade him or else. They traded him to the 49ers in a classic quarterback deal. The Oilers retain Pastorini. But they have acquired an over-30 quarterback to help him, John Hadl. Hadl has been a vagabond with some winning years. He played for the Chargers, then the Rams, then the Packers, now the Oilers.

Earl Morrall survives and even wins into his 40s. No quarterback has traveled more. He started in 1956 with the 49ers. His trail took him to the Steelers, the Lions, the Giants, the Colts, and currently the Dolphins. Once he was traded for Bobby Layne, a bon vivant legend who won championships two decades ago. Layne began



BOB BERRY, above and BOB LEE, below were Fran Tarkenton's backup quarterbacks at Minnesota. Berry was shipped to Atlanta. Lee wanted out and was traded to Atlanta but in the end, both returned home to beloved Minnesota.





EARL MORRALL, above, Detroit QB against Colts in 1963, took much abuse.

with the Steelers and traveled to the Bears, the New York Yanks, the Lions and back to the Steelers.

A cerebral probe into Tarkenton's theory shows it to be 50-50 accurate. Quarterbacks can win in their 20s. Some do, most don't, most are traded sometime at least once. Namath won a Super Bowl before 30 and so did Roger Staubach. So did Bob Griese and Terry Bradshaw. The latter two happened to beat the Vikings of Tarkenton. Namath, Staubach, Griese and Bradshaw are quarterbacks who have never been traded. Not yet.

Rare indeed is the No. 1 quarterback who plays an entire career for one team before the same gaggle of wrathful infidels. "We want Morrall . . . we want Landry . . . we want Jaworski . . . we want Brodie . . . (fill in your own choice . . .)" is the most popular group cheer on Sunday in America. Each—Morrall, Greg Landry, Ron Jaworski and old John Brodie—happened to be the guy in the sidelines with the telephone headset where his ears should show. He was the guy with the envious expression.

"Play me or trade me" is the most popular negotiation gambit by the jilted quarterback, who is positive he could start for 27 other clubs.

Quarterbacks, by the nature of

their vulnerability and characters, have become the most marketable commodities in pro sport.

Even John Unitas was traded when Baltimore was through with him. Sonny Jurgensen, perhaps the best passing artisan in the game, began in Philadelphia and went to Washington.

On one afternoon two years ago in midseason, there was a mass shuffle among the vagabonds. Craig Morton, fed up with the Cowboys, was traded to the Giants and became No. 1 in New York. The Giants traded the peripatetic Snead to the 49ers, his fourth club. The 49ers dealt Joe Reed to the Lions. On the same day the Rams traded Hadl, of course, to the Packers for five draft choices.

Otherwise, it was a customary day in Pete Rozelle's universe.

Every offseason there are the quarterback trades that perpetuate the mystique. Plunkett went this year with Tom Owen moving the other way from the 49ers to the Patriots. Hadl went again with the Packers acquiring Lynn Dickey, who had wanted to be traded from the Oilers. With Plunkett in San Francisco at last, the 49ers could trade Steve Spurrier to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Spurrier had wished aloud to be traded, too.

By count, 41 of the 76 veteran quarterbacks on the 28 NFL rosters

this year have been employed by more than one club in their pro careers. It boils to more than half are gypsies. Thirty-five of the quarterbacks were home grown.

Ten of the 28 expected quarterback starters have been traded at least one time.

The exchange is brisker in the NFC, probably because the AFC possesses more prominent, young quarterbacks—Bradshaw, Griese, Pastorini, Ken Anderson, Bert Jones, plus Namath. In the NFC 26 of the 38 quarterbacks were with other clubs first. Eight of the 14 expected No. 1 quarterbacks in the NFC are those who have played on other clubs.

The Quarterback Mystique is internally fascinating. The below chart reveals why:

QUARTERBACK TRAVELOGUE AFC

COLTS—Bert Jones (homegrown); Marty Domres (via Chargers); Bill Troup (via Eagles).

BILLS—Joe Ferguson (homegrown); Gary Marangi (homegrown).

BENGALS—Ken Anderson (homegrown); John Reaves (via Eagles).

BROWNS—Mike Phipps (homegrown); Brian Sipe (homegrown); Will Cureton (homegrown).

BRONCOS—Steve Ramsey (via Saints); John Hufnagel (homegrown).

(Continued on page 139)

Y.A. TITTLE suffered in San Francisco, was great in his 30's with Giants.



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AFC FINAL—1975

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pct.
Pittsburgh	12	2	0	.857
*Cincinnati	11	3	0	.786
Houston	10	4	0	.714
Cleveland	3	11	0	.214

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct.
Baltimore	10	4	0	.714
Miami	10	4	0	.714
Buffalo	8	6	0	.571
New England	3	11	0	.214
N.Y. Jets	3	11	0	.214

*Wild Card For Playoffs

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct.
Oakland	11	3	0	.786
Denver	6	8	0	.429
Kansas City	5	9	0	.357
San Diego	2	12	0	.143

Playoffs

Baltimore	0	7	3	0-10
Pittsburgh	7	0	7	14-28
Cincinnati	0	7	7	14-28
Oakland	3	14	7	7-35



By Larry Felser

Pro grid scribe Larry Felser of Buffalo Evening News is expert analyst of pro scene

STEELERS MAY BE FIRST IN NFL TO WIN THREE STRAIGHT SUPER BOWLS

PREDICTIONS

Central Division

1. Pittsburgh
2. Cincinnati
3. Houston
4. Cleveland

Western Division

1. Oakland
2. Denver
3. San Diego
4. Kansas City
5. Tampa Bay

Eastern Division

1. Miami
2. Buffalo
3. Baltimore
4. New England
5. New York

The Green Bay Packers of Vince Lombardi never did it. The Miami Dolphins of Don Shula couldn't bring it off.

But the corner-bar, blue-collar team coached by aristocratic Chuck Noll, the Pittsburgh Steelers, have an excellent chance of becoming the first National Football League team ever to win three consecutive Super Bowls when Game XI is played next January at Pasadena.

The Steelers still have more defense than any team in football and now possess an offense of which even the defense can be proud.

Oakland should waltz to the Western Division championship as usual. The Raiders have problems in their defensive line but there is so much talent in other places that even that drawback shouldn't cause much worry until the playoffs.

The Eastern Division should be another three-team scramble among Baltimore, Miami and Buffalo.

The Dolphins, with maturing young talent and a winning tradition—plus a defense which is still the best-balanced in the division—should regain their championship from the Colts. Baltimore's tough opening schedule and problems in their secondary and at fullback may be too much to

overcome. Buffalo's fireworks offense should overcome its own defensive deficiencies enough to put the Bills in second place.

Cincinnati should be the wild-card team again, even with Paul Brown now retired to the general manager's office. The Bengals' talent might win them the Eastern or Western titles, but they are stuck in the central with the Steelers.

Jim Plunkett may be a San Francisco 49er now and Joe Namath may be approaching his dottage, but the AFC is still the conference of stars as well as champions.

O. J. Simpson postponed his full-scale attack on Hollywood for some more football. He was asking for financial parity with Namath, \$500,000 a year, and there were some who said that was too much. They should inspect Buffalo's attendance figures: 537,619 in 14 regular-season games to lead the NFL for the third consecutive year.

Artistically, Simpson should continue his relentless way toward the game's Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

When O. J. gains his 475th yard this year, he will have moved into third place in the NFL's all-time ground-gaining list ahead of Jim Taylor, the Green Bay fullback who was en-

shrined last summer. The Juice is 1600 behind second-place Joe Perry. Perry isn't unreachable in '76. O. J. gained 1817 last year, second only to his own 2003 in '73 and Jim Brown's 1863 in 1963. Brown, of course, is the all-time NFL leader.

Beyond O. J., there is Franco Harris, possibly the foremost money player in football today.

In the post-season games in which he has played, Franco has been the leading ground gainer in eight of them. For Harris the 1000-yard season has become almost routine and, if he wasn't playing in the same era with Simpson, he would be a star of far greater magnitude.

The Steelers bulge with glamour.

Terry Bradshaw no longer is looked upon as a big, strong lunk with a powerful arm, but a quarterback who has steered two Super Bowl winners with finesse and restraint as well as strength.

CHUCK NOLL, Pittsburgh's coach, seeks third straight Super Bowl win.



NFL American Conference

Lynn Swann established himself as the NFL's class receiver with his fantastic catches in the last Super Bowl.

Jack Lambert established himself as the spiritual heir to Dick Butkus with a ferocious display of middle linebacking in just his second professional season.

In Pittsburgh's own division is Kenny Anderson, the NFL's leading passer the last two seasons; Curley Culp, the defensive tackle whose arrival in Houston virtually turned the Oilers from losers to winner; and Cleveland's Jerry Sherk, voted by his peers as the best defensive lineman in the NFL.

There will be three new coaches in the AFC this season.

Bill "Tiger" Johnson, the first assistant coach hired by Paul Brown when he formed the Cincinnati Bengals in 1968, was promoted to the top job when PB unexpectedly kicked himself upstairs last winter. Johnson inherits one of the league's most talented teams, but he's never been a head coach at any level and the rest of the league is watching skeptically.

Last year Baltimore performed the top reversal of form in NFL history, advancing from a dead-last finish of 2-12 in 1975 to the championship of the American Conference's Eastern Division under a first-year coach, Ted Marchibroda.

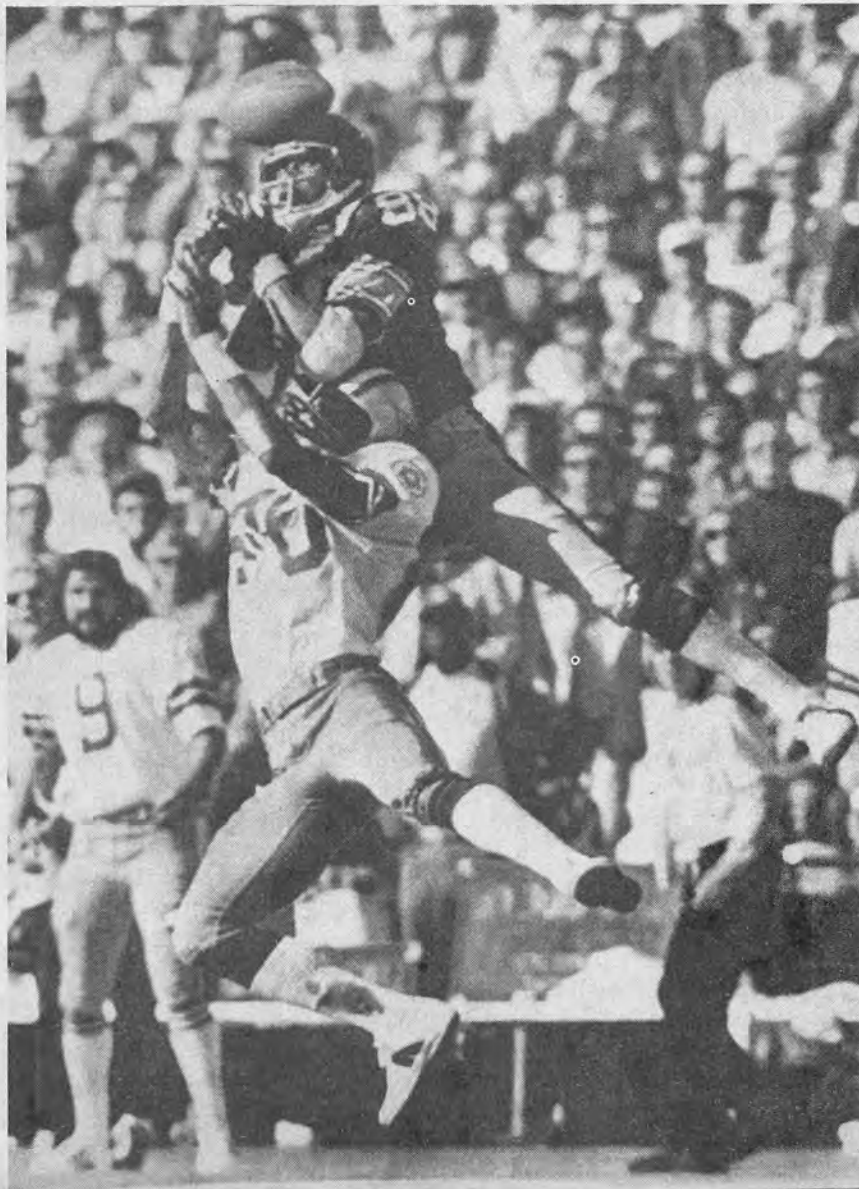
New York Jets followers may look for something similar as their team hiring a new man, Lou Holtz, the successful college coach from North Carolina State, but the realists know that the Jets' problems are far more serious than those of the '74 Colts. New York had one of the worst defensive records in NFL history last year.

The third new coach is in charge of the new team, Tampa Bay.

The Buccaneers' first coach is John McKay, a legendary college leader at Southern California. McKay became bored with Rose

Bowl teams and Pacific Coast championships. An NFL expansion team was his idea of change. The contract written for him by Buc president Hugh Culverhouse wasn't a handicap in convincing him either.

LYNN SWANN (88) is about to make sensational Super Bowl grab for Steelers, good for 53 yards, as Cowboy's MARK WASHINGTON defends.



It was a long-term document, which is handy when you are operating with a roster which includes only four men who started in the NFL last year, tight end Bob Moore, guard Ira Gordon, defensive end Pat Toomay and strong safety Jim Kearney.

The Bucs, with ex-Oakland personnel whiz Ron Wolf doing the picking, opted for the future by taking mostly young, untried players.

Tampa will operate, for purposes of standings only, in the AFC West. The Buccaneers will play every team in the conference once. The big battle for them will be Oct. 17 when they meet the other expansion team, Seattle, in the Bambino Bowl in Tampa Stadium.

All three of the new coaches took the conservative route in their acceptance speeches.

"I know I'm following a tough act," admitted Johnson. "I don't think that any man can try to fill Paul Brown's shoes."

"I'm not a miracle man or a genius," said Holtz. "But we'll field a team which will play enthusiastic and exciting football."

McKay, who has a 127-40-8 record in 17 years at USC, winning four national collegiate championships, has no illusions about his pickle. "I won't be ridiculous and say I think we can win right away," he said, "but I hope we will be able to build a winner in four or five years."

He's in a league which produced the NFL's offensive champion, Buffalo; the passing champion, Cincinnati; the sack-the-quarterback champ, Baltimore and the Super Bowl champion, Pittsburgh.

Six of the eight individual categories were won by AFC players.

Simpson won the rushing title and led the league in scoring with 138 points while breaking Gale Sayers' touchdown record with 23.

Mel Blount of Pittsburgh won the interception championship with 11.

Billy Johnson of Houston had the best punt return record in the league, 15.3, with three touchdowns.

Anderson won the passing title

again, leading in efficiency.

Ray Guy was the top punter with a 43.8 average.

As usual, there are all sorts of intriguing questions in the AFC. Such as:

—Were the Colts a momentary comet last year? Was their 9-game winning streak, which finished the '75 season, a phenomenon like the 6-game streak which finished the Jets' '74 season and gave them false hopes? Or is Baltimore a solid champion?

—Will complacency be Pittsburgh's toughest opponent, as it has been for other teams on the verge of a dynasty?

—Can Oakland win the big one for a change?

—Can Don Shula keep rebuilding Miami in the face of defections and departures?

—Will John McKay of Tampa and Lou Holtz of the Jets find the kind of trouble in the NFL which other college coaches such as Tommy Prothro and Chuck Fairbanks found? Or will they succeed as another college coach, Don Coryell of St. Louis, succeeded?

—Can Holtz control Joe Namath? Will the Jet owners allow him to control Namath? If he can't control Namath will he be able to build without him?

—Can Buffalo construct an adequate defense which won't get in the way of its bang-bang offense?

—Is Mike Livingston really the answer to Kansas City's quarterback problems? If he isn't, what will Coach Paul Wiggin do as an alternative?

—Who is the answer to Denver's quarterback problems? If there isn't an answer, will the Broncos fall back into the dark ages again?

—Can Paul Warfield's return to Cleveland rescue Mike Phipps' career as an NFL quarterback?

—Can Bill Johnson avoid the "Phil Bengtson" syndrome as Paul Brown's coaching successor in Cincinnati?

—Will George Blanda finally be put out to pasture in Oakland? If so, will the Raiders lose more in Blanda's clutch ability than they gain in rookie Fred Steinfort's superior range?

—Does Houston have enough

offense in Dan Pastorini and his pals to blend with good defense and overtake Pittsburgh and Cincinnati in the AFC-Central?

—Will Archie Griffin pump up the Bengals' running game or succumb to the Heisman Trophy jinx?

—Can Tommy Prothro buy enough time to win in San Diego? Can he find a quarterback to buy him the time?

—Can Steve Grogan erase some of the memories of Jim Plunkett in New England?

—Can Lydell Mitchell produce another fabulous season for Baltimore without a major-league fullback alongside him?

Some of those answers may be provided by the anonymous men of pro football, assistant coaches. There is heavy movement among that itinerant fraternity every year and this season there are some vital changes in the AFC. Some of them may affect divisional races.

San Diego hired Bill Walsh, a former key aide to Paul Brown, to direct its offense. Apparently Walsh is getting his message across.

"Coach Walsh says we're going to have one of the top offenses in the NFL this year," vows quarterback Don Fouts, "and I believe Coach Walsh."

To help steer Cincinnati's new head coach, Bill Johnson, on course, the club hired two ex head coaches to help him. Charley Winner, shot down as by the Jets, is an expert in teaching zone defense. Mike McCormick, a victim of circumstances as head man in Philadelphia, is a noted teacher of line play.

Holtz, the Jets' new man, made a daring move by hiring Walt Michaels to run the defense. Michaels, who coached the New Yorkers' defense in more successful days, was prominently mentioned as a possible head coach of the Jets himself before Holtz got the job.

Richie McCabe, the firebrand defensive coach who has specialized in man-for-man coverages, returned to Buffalo where he got his coaching start a decade ago. The Bills are a man-to-man team, so the results could be interesting for what was the weakest pass



O.J. SIMPSON picks up some of the 1817 yards that brought him rushing title last season, behind deft blocking of JOE DELAMIELLEURE.

defense in the league last year.

Billy Kinard, ex head coach at Mississippi University, takes over the secondary in Cleveland. McCabe quit that post in controversy.

John Sandusky is on the spot in Miami. He inherits Monte Clark's offensive line. Clark coached that unit to superb accomplishments from the year Don Shula took over the team until last winter, when Monte became head coach at San Francisco.

John Rauch, former head coach at Oakland and Buffalo, gets the assignment of making a stable starter out of quarterback Steve Spurrier for Tampa Bay.

Stan Jones returns to Denver as defensive line coach. He had that job in the late '60s when the Broncos were the top pass-rush team in the NFL.

One of the biggest vacancies will be at Oakland, where John Robinson, the brilliant offensive backfield coach, left to become head coach of the University of Southern California.

The parade of fresh talent in the AFC is led by the man who won the last two Heisman Trophies, running back Archie Griffin of Ohio State, who will play with Cincinnati.

The only quarterback taken in

the first round of the draft was Alabama's Richard Todd, who went to the New York Jets.

The first player in the entire draft was Oklahoma defensive lineman Leroy Selmon, taken by Tampa Bay.

Other glamour folks new to the AFC are Oklahoma's flashy running back, Joe Washington, taken by San Diego; Clemson tight end Bennie Cunningham, selected by Pittsburgh, Purdue fullback Mike Pruitt, selected by Cleveland; and Oklahoma wide receiver, taken by Cincinnati.

Some of the individual titles could go to these players in 1976: Rushing—O. J. Simpson again. Passing—Bert Jones, Baltimore. Scoring—Jan Stenerud, Kansas City.

Pass receiving—Ken Burrough, Houston.

Punt returns—Billy Johnson, Houston.

Kickoff returns—Allen Carter, New England.

Punting—Ray Guy, Oakland.

MVP—Bob Griese, Miami.

MVP defense—Jack Ham, Pittsburgh.

Rookie of year, offense—Joe Washington, San Diego.

Rookie of year, defense—Leroy Selmon, Tampa Bay.

Coach of year—Don Shula, Miami.

My 1976 All-AFC team

OFFENSE

Quarterback—Bob Griese, Miami.

Running backs—O. J. Simpson, Buffalo and Franco Harris, Pittsburgh.

Wide receivers—Ken Burrough, Houston and Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh.

Tight end—Russ Francis, New England.

Tackles—Vernon Holland, Cincinnati and Art Shell, Oakland.

Guards—Joe DeLamielleure, Buffalo and Bob Kuechenberg, Miami.

Center—Jim Langer, Miami.

Place kicker—Jan Stenerud, Kansas City.

DEFENSE

Ends—John Dutton, Baltimore and Dwight White, Pittsburgh.

Tackles—Jerry Sherk, Cleveland and Curley Culp, Houston.

Middle linebacker—Jack Lambert, Pittsburgh.

Outside linebacker—Jack Ham, Pittsburgh and Ted Hendricks, Oakland.

Corner backs—Skip Thomas, Oakland and Mel Blount, Pittsburgh.

Free safety—Jack Tatum, Oakland.

Strong safety—Tommy Casanova, Cincinnati.

Punter—Ray Guy, Oakland.

Both conferences will play under some new rules this year.

The most interesting, stipulates that large, 30-second time clocks be placed in each end zone and used as official timing devices for getting the ball into play in the allotted time.

The coin toss will be conducted live three minutes before kickoff on the field instead of a half hour before the game in the dressing room.

Those are moves directed at bringing the fan more directly into the action.

To take the confusion away from statistics, blocked punts no longer will be subtracted from the yardage of individual punters. The blocks will be subtracted from the team punting, along with the yardage lost on touchbacks and punt returns so an accurate measure can be made of the efficiency of punting teams.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

PREDICTION 1st

No football team ever won three consecutive Super Bowls. Not the power Packers of Green Bay. Not the super Dolphins of Miami under Don Shula.

The question before the house this season is whether the Pittsburgh Steelers can do what others failed to do.

One thing seems certain in the wake of the Steelers' two straight Super Bowl championships. Art Rooney's team has more of everything.

The Steelers themselves used to think that they won almost exclusively on defense. "Don't get us in too much trouble," the defenders used to tell quarterback Terry Bradshaw and his colleagues, "and we'll win."

The defense could still say

TERRY BRADSHAW, quarterback has been Steelers' guiding force.

that. It has the best linebacking, the best front four and a secondary which has improved amazingly in three seasons. But the defense doesn't say it because the Steelers also have an offense which can carry a team now.

You want to pound it out with the Steelers? They'll pound it out with you by using Franco Harris behind the blocking of Rocky Bleier until you'll hate the sight of both of them. You want the quick strike? Try Bradshaw to Lynn Swann. Or Bradshaw to Frank Lewis. Or Bradshaw to John Stallworth.

You get the picture.

The Steelers now are a team of amazing balance. There is depth, too. Coach Chuck Noll can make a secondary's tongue hang out covering Lewis, then torture them by putting Stallworth in the game.

Noll can use the "old Ranger," Ray Mansfield, at center for the first half. When the opposition is done pounding on Mansfield, the coach can shove young Mike Webster in the game for a half. By that time the defense gets tired pounding.

He can get the big catch from tight end Larry Brown in one Super Bowl and the big catch from Brown's sub, Randy Grossman, in the next.

The Steelers are, obviously, a tough team to overcome.

The answer to the big question about the Steelers' chances to win a third straight Super Bowl doesn't lie in talent. There is enough skill for that. The question addresses itself to the Steelers' mental attitude. Are they hungry enough to go all the way again?

Something happens to a team when they win a great deal. The Dolphins became a changed team. The Steelers were a different group in Miami than they had been in New Orleans. Suc-

CHUCK NOLL, Coach.

Assistants: Lionel Taylor, Bud Carson, Dan Radakovich, Lou Riecke, Dick Hoak, George Perles, Paul Uram, Woody Widenhofer.

cess spoils more than Rock Hunter.

What might hone their mental attitudes more than anything else is competition.

They have it in their own division. Cincinnati pursued them almost to the wire, winning the AFC wild card spot in the process. Houston pushed and pushed, too. The Oilers had by far the best third-place record in the NFL, 10-4.

As far as ability, the Steelers have it in gushers.

Bradshaw no longer is looked upon as Little Abner in Shoulder Pads. No Steeler quarterback—Bobby Layne included—ever threw the ball as accurately as Terry did last year. He hit on 57.7 percent of his throws, passed for 18 touchdowns and accumulated 2055 yards for a team which used basically a conservative offense.

But Bradshaw's biggest improvement may have rested in what he DIDN'T do. He didn't put the Steelers in a pickle, as he has in the past.

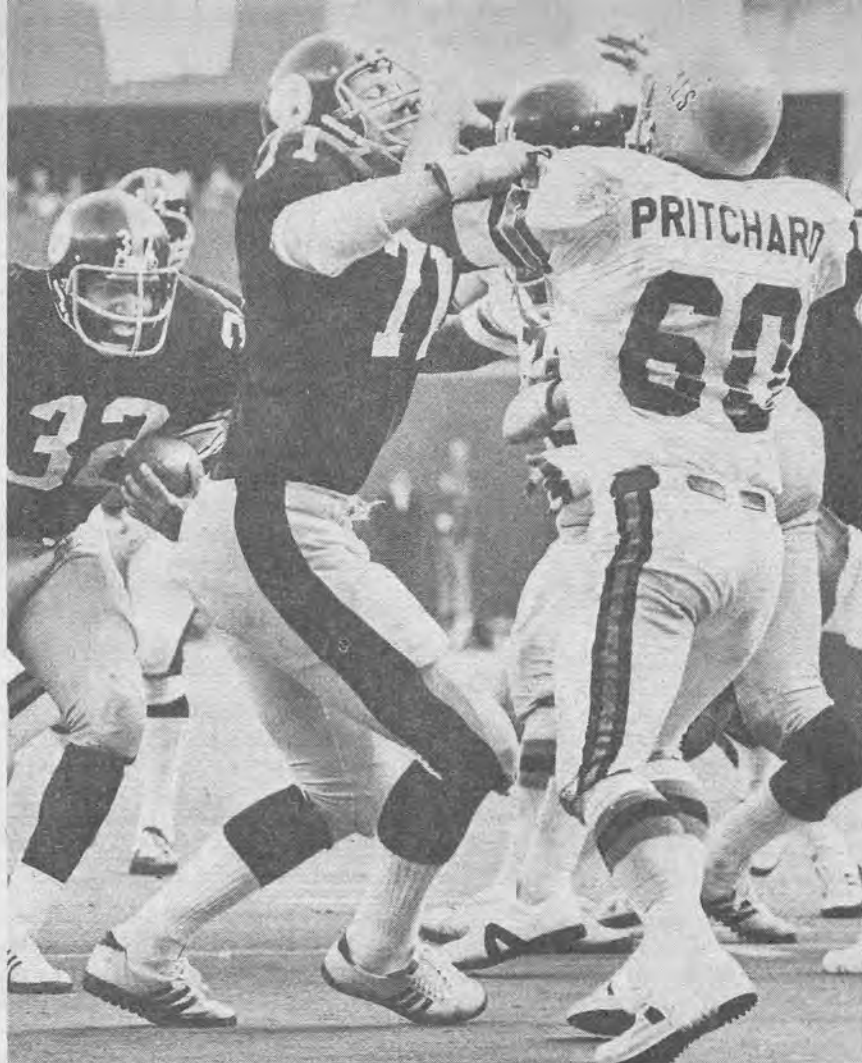
At 28, he is probably just peaking as a pro quarterback.

Behind him there is a puzzle. Joe Gilliam actually wrested the job from Bradshaw early in 1974. By the end of last year Gilliam wasn't even playing. When Bradshaw got hurt late in the Super Bowl, Terry Hanratty, who hadn't thrown a pass all season, was put into the game as the substitute.

Gilliam, squarely in the doghouse of Coach Chuck Noll, had no problem signing with New Orleans. Hanratty doesn't figure to have a distant future with Noll, either. So the Steelers drafted Mike Kruczek from Boston College on the second round. The Pittsburgh scouts think he just touched the tip of his talent in college.

The Steelers aren't deep in





FRANCO HARRIS, en route to third straight 1000-yard season, gets running room as GORDON GRAVELLE (71) blocks Bengal defenders.

running back talent, but then they haven't had to be.

Franco Harris is the man around whom the Pittsburgh attack is built. He had his third 1000-yard season in '75. His total of 1246 yards put him behind only one man, O.J. Simpson. Franco already has had 18 100-yard games.

Harris is one of pro football's deadliest money players. In the nine playoff and Super Bowl games in which he has participated, he led both teams in ground gaining in all but one. When the tough yards are needed, Franco gets the call.

It may be true that his running mate, Rocky Bleier, might not even make some other NFL rosters. But for the Steelers, he is ideal. His blocking is part of what makes Harris so successful. Bleier also is a skilled pass receiver, a test for most linebackers. Bradshaw uses him frequently.

The Rock isn't a blank as a ball carrier, either. He gained 528 yards despite missing three games last year.

Behind them are Frenchy Fuqua, a onetime starter, Mike Collier and Reggie Harrison. Fuqua, adjusted to his new role as a relief man, gained 285 yards after overcoming '74 injuries. Collier averaged 5.9 yards in 21 carries as a rookie. Harrison, a squatty, power type, is the man who blocked the key punt against Dallas in the Super Bowl.

Swann is an instant success story. As a part-time player in '74, he had a spectacular season and was even more potent in the playoffs. Last year, when the Steelers traded longtime starter Ron Shanklin, Swann became Bradshaw's most frequent target. He caught 49 passes, 11 of them for touchdowns.

The former Southern California star made three of the best catches in Super Bowl history

against the Cowboys in the Super Bowl, using his fantastic timing and leaping ability. His play won him the game's most valuable player award and a new automobile.

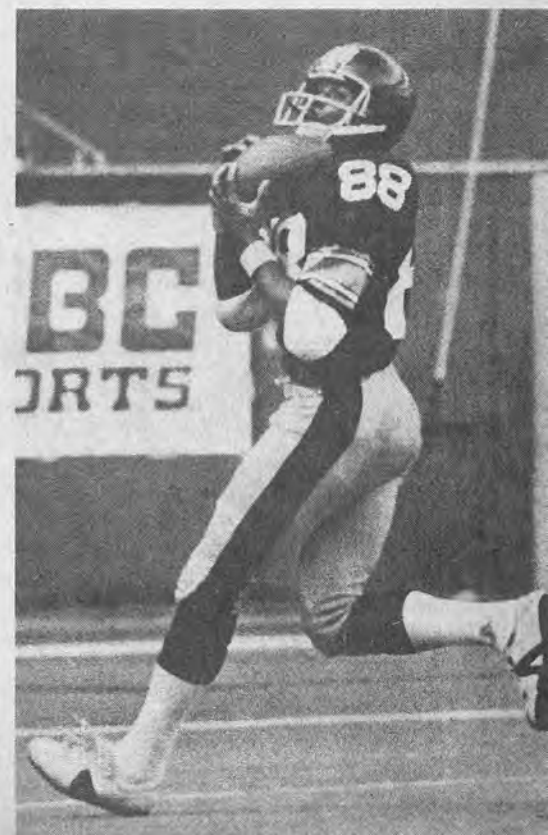
Lined up across from Swann is John Stallworth, whose 21.2-yard per-catch average on 20 receptions tied him with Cincinnati's Isaac Curtis for the best in the National League.

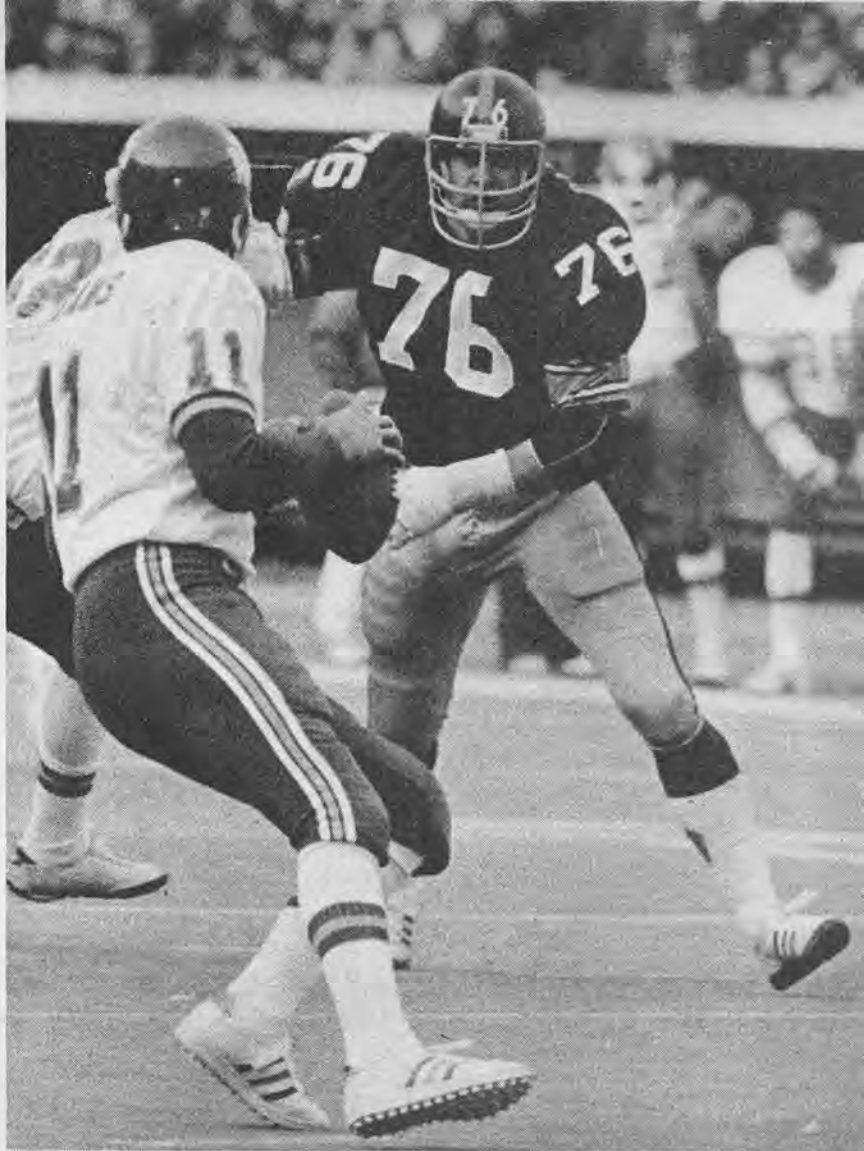
Both Swann and Stallworth are exceptional blockers.

The "fireman" on the wide-receiver roster is Frank Lewis, a onetime starter. His 17 catches averaged 18.1. Lewis is one of the fastest men in the NFL.

There is plenty of competition behind them. Reggie Garrett has experience but rookies Ernest Pough of Texas Southern and Theo Bell of Arizona are something special. Pough, a :09.3 sprinter, averaged 26.2 yards on 21 catches and scored eight touchdowns last year. Bell scored 30 touchdowns during his varsity career, averaged 19.7 yards on 31 catches as a senior and caught 53 as a junior. Other rookies include Bill Carroll, Kelvin Kirk and Bob Gaddis.

LYNN SWANN is favorite passing target, catching 49 passes in '75.





JOHN BANASZAK, burly Pittsburgh defensive end, is solid backup man.

The situation at tight end is interesting.

Both the holdovers, starter Larry Brown and relief man Randy Grossman, have credentials. Brown is a solid blocker. Grossman a clever receiver. Brown caught a touchdown pass in the '75 Super Bowl and Grossman did the same in the last one.

But Pittsburgh's No. 1 draft choice was a tight end, huge Bennie Cunningham of Clemson. He is given a good chance to win a starting assignment as a rookie.

Cunningham is a 6-4, 255-pound locomotive. He caught 64 passes for 10 touchdowns and a 17.1-yard average in three seasons at Clemson. He has speed and downfield blocking ability.

Also drafted was Vanderbilt's Barry Burton, who caught 75 passes in three seasons. He also averaged 8.5 yards on 56 carries.

There could be some phasing

out at center. Ray Mansfield never missed a game for the Steelers, but after 13 pro seasons the Steelers are looking ahead. Mike Webster shared the position with Ray last year, but Mansfield's successor could be Ray Pinney, a rugged, 6-4 rookie from Washington who was drafted on the second round.

Jim Clack, who used to share the center position with Mansfield, is now a starting guard. The Steelers use three men there, with Gerry Mullins also starting and Sam Davis, a onetime starter, relieving both of them during the course of a game to keep fresh men in the line up.

Mullins is a valuable man. He also plays tackle and lines up as the extra-tight end on power plays. Coach Chuck Noll also uses him as a man in motion from tight end. Mullins heads toward the center of the field, then, at

the snap of the ball, pivots and powers into the line as a blocker-in-transit.

The Steelers scored a touchdown against Dallas on the maneuver.

Another second-round draft choice, McNeese's Jim Files, is a new possibility at guard although he was a center as a senior.

The tackles are Jon Kolb and Gordon Gravelle, with Mullins also serving as the backup here.

The first thing any opponents sees when it lines upon on offense against the Steelers is the collective menace of the front four: L. C. Greenwood . . . Mean Joe Greene . . . Ernie Holmes . . . Dwight White.

It is not a happy sight for any quarterback or ball carrier. Some of them are still improving. White, for instance, had the finest season of his career. His game, always physical, is acquiring finesse.

Both Greenwood and Holmes, one of the strongest men in the league, play at an all-pro level. The lone worry is whether Greene will return to the form he made famous before he suffered a nerve injury which affected the strength in his left arm.

The possibility that Greene will not be the old Joe can't be minimized. He is the catalyst in the Steeler defense, even though the team won big without him in '75.

Steve Furness did a creditable job filling in for Green last year. John Banaszak also showed he was a capable backup for the ends. The draft brought more reinforcements. The most promising newcomer is Bill Barber, a second-round pick last year who signed in the World League instead.

The year's group is headed by Penn State tackle Ron Coder, Miami tackle Gary Dunn, Massachusetts end Ed McAleney and North Texas State's Mel Davis.

How many teams have three all-pros in one area? All three Pittsburgh line backers are in that category. Jack Ham is acknowledged as the best outside backer in the game. Jack Lambert was the consensus all-pro middle linebacker in just his second pro season. The fiery thin



man was the dominant defensive force in the Super Bowl.

The amazing part is that Andy Russell, 35, is an even better player than he was four or five years ago.

There are two experienced subs, Loren Toews, who is heir apparent to Russell, and Marv Kellum. The newcomers are Rice's Rodney Norton, Colorado's Gary Campbell and Ohio State's Larry Kain.

Three of the Steelers' four starters in the secondary played in the 1976 Pro Bowl.

Corner Mel Blount set a Steeler record with 11 interceptions. Wagner is the helmsman of the deep defense. Glen Edwards is the executioner, a ferocious hitter. The other corner, J. T. Thomas, is an emerging star.

Jim Allen is an experienced corner and Donnie Shell a qualified safety. Elon's Brent Sexton, Florida's Wayne Fields and Cincinnati's Wentford Gaines will press them for work.

Place kicker Roy Gerela had a great year, kicking 17 of 24 field goals. Ageless punter Bobby Walden may be challenged by Burton.

MEL BLOUNT readies to take off after one of his 11 interceptions for the Steelers in 1975 campaign.

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Gerela, 95 points on 44 XP, 17 field goals	4th
RUSHING —Harris, 262 carries for 1246 yds., 4.8 Avg., 10 TDs	2nd
PASSING —Bradshaw, 165 of 286 attempts for 2055 yds., 18 TDs	4th
RECEIVING —Swann, 49 receptions for 781 yds., 11 TDs	6th
INTERCEPTIONS —Blount, 11 for 121 yds., 11.0 Avg.	1st
PUNTING —Walden, 69 punts, 39.4 Avg., longest 67 yds.	8th
PUNT RETURNS —Edwards, 25 for 267 yds., 10.7 Avg.	7th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Collier, 22 for 523 yds., 23.8 Avg., 1 TD	9th

Pre-Season Games

July	23 College All-Stars (N)
	31 AT New Orleans (N)
Aug.	9 AT Philadelphia (N)
	14 AT Washington (N)
	22 N.Y. GIANTS (N)
	28 AT Dallas (N)
Sept.	4 N.Y. JETS (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 AT Oakland (4 pm)	—
19 CLEVELAND	31-17
26 NEW ENGLAND	—
Oct. 4 AT Minnesota (N)	—
10 AT Cleveland	42-6
17 CINCINNATI	35-14
24 AT N.Y. Giants	—
31 SAN DIEGO	37-0
Nov. 7 AT Kansas City	28-3
14 MIAMI (4 pm)	—
21 HOUSTON	24-17
28 AT Cincinnati (4 pm)	30-24
Dec. 5 TAMPA BAY	—
11 PITTSBURGH	9-32



JACK HAM is regarded as the best outside linebacker in pro football.

STEELERS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
45	Allen, Jim	CB	6-2	194	24	3	UCLA
76	Banaszak, John	DE	6-3½	232	26	2	East. Mich.
20	Bleier, Rocky	RB	5-11	210	30	8	Notre Dame
47	Blount, Mel	CB	6-3	200	28	8	Southern La. Tech.
12	Bradshaw, Terry	QB	6-3	210	28	7	Kansas
87	Brown, Larry	TE	6-4	230	27	6	Wake Forest
50	Clack, Jim	G-C	6-3	250	29	6	Morgan St.
44	Collier, Mike	RB	5-11	200	23	2	Allen
57	Davis, Sam	G	6-1	250	32	10	Fia. A&M
27	Edwards, Glen	S	6-0	185	29	6	Morgan St.
33	Fuqua, John	RB	5-11	200	30	8	Rhode Island
64	Furness, S.	DT-DE	6-4	255	26	5	East. Mich.
86	Garrett, Reggie	WR	6-1	175	26	3	Brig. Young
10	Gerela, Roy	K	5-10	190	28	8	N. Tex. St.
71	Gravelle, Gordon	OT	6-5	255	27	5	Ark. AM&N
75	Greene, Joe	DT	6-4	275	30	8	Temple
68	Grenwood, L.C.	DE	6-6	245	30	8	Penn St.
84	Grossman, R.	TE	6-1	215	23	3	Notre Dame
59	Ham, Jack	LB	6-1	225	28	6	Penn St.
5	Hanratty, Terry	QB	6-1	205	28	8	Cincinnati
32	Harris, Franco	RB	6-2	230	26	5	Tex. So'ern
46	Harrison, R.	RB	5-11	215	26	3	Wichita St.
63	Holmes, Ernie	DT	6-3	260	28	8	Oklahoma State
54	Kellum, Marv	LB	6-2	225	24	3	Kent St.
55	Kolb, Jon	OT	6-3	262	29	6	Grambling
58	Lambert, Jack	LB	6-4	220	24	14	Washington
43	Lewis, Frank	WR	6-1	196	29	6	So. Calif.
56	Mansfield, Ray	C	6-3	260	35	12	Missouri
72	Mullins, Gerry	G-OT	6-3	240	27	3	S.C. State
34	Russell, Andy	LB	6-2	220	35	3	Ala. A&M
31	Shell, Donnie	S	5-11	195	24	4	So. Calif.
82	Stallworth, J.	WR	6-2	185	24	3	Florida St.
28	Swann, Lynn	WR	5-10	180	24	4	California
24	Thomas, J.T.	CB	6-2	196	25	4	West. Ill.
51	Toews, Loren	LB	6-3	222	25	13	Georgia
23	Wagner, Mike	P	6-1	197	38	3	Wisconsin
39	Walden, Bobby	P	6-1	245	24	6	E. Tex. St.
52	Webster, Mike	G-C	6-1	245	24	6	
78	White, Dwight	DE	6-4	255	27	6	

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Bell, Theo	WR	5-11	177	22	Arizona
Burton, Barry	TE	6-2	222	22	Vanderbilt
Butts, Randy	RB	6-1	187	25	Kearney
Campbell, Gary	LB	6-0	209	24	Colorado
Carroll, Bill	WR	6-3	202	22	E. Tex. St.
Coder, Ron	DT	6-2	230	22	Penn St.
Cunningham, B.	TE	6-4	255	21	Clemson
Davis, Mel	DE	6-4	241	23	N. Tex. St.
Deloplain, Jack	RB	5-10	190	22	Salem
Dunn, Gary	DT	6-3	240	22	Miami (Fla.)
Fields, Wayne	DB	6-0	196	22	Florida
Files, James	G-C	6-2	246	22	McNeese
Fuchs, Rolland	RB	5-10	196	24	Arkansas
Gaddis, Bob	WR	5-11	180	24	Mississippi
Gaines, W.	CB	6-0	185	23	Cincinnati
Kain, Larry	LB	6-1	225	23	Ohio St.
Kirk, Kelvin	WR	5-11	185	22	Dayton
Kruczek, Mike	QB	6-0	196	23	Boston Col.
McAlenev, Ed	DE	6-2	235	22	Mass.
Monds, Wonder	S	6-2	204	24	Nebraska
Norton, Rodney	LB	6-2	202	22	Rice
Pinney, Ray	C	6-4	239	22	Washington
Pough, Ernest	WR	6-1	174	24	Tex. So'ern
Sexton, Brent	CB	6-0	183	23	Elon

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- Complete numbered index
- Total game statistics in a box score form as well as weekly updates on totals

8th week of season, 5th team listed in the index

Head coach

Complete schedule, Log of past games, Official pointspread

Analysis of team's last game by professional correspondents

Scoring sequence of team's last game

Complete statistics of team's last game

Season's statistical totals for team

Preview of upcoming game

(VISITING TEAM ON LEFT / HOME TEAM ON RIGHT)

ARIZONA (8-1) 8-6 **SAN DIEGO ST. (8-0)**

Power Rtg. 91 C. Gilbert **Power Rtg. 86**

S. 20 Pacific 16-0 S. 6 UTEP 31-10
 — 27 at Wyo. (+12½) 14-0 — 13 at Oregon St. 25-0
 O. 4 Northwestern 41-6 — 20 N. Texas St. 30-12
 — 11 at Utah El Paso 36-0 — 27 at Utah St. 19-10
 — 18 Texas Tech (+10) 32-28 O. 4 Fullerton St. 34-13
 — 25 New Mexico 34-44 — 11 at Fresno St. 26-7
 N 1 at Brigham Young 36-20 — 18 New Mexico St. 48-3
 — 8 at San Diego St. — N 1 at Pacific 31-13
 — 15 at Color. St. — — 15 at Sonoma —
 — 22 Utah — — 8 Arizona —
 — 29 at Arizona St. — — 22 Long Beach St. —

Flanker "T" Bell caught 2 TD passes & had two long kickoff returns to set up 2 more as Arizona beat Brigham Young last week, 36-20. Also aiding Arizona's scoring effort was kicker Lee Pistor who hit on FGs of 17, 19, and 40 yds. Wildcats controlled ground game, but BYU stayed in game with 387 aerial yds. Cougars' 3 turnovers hurt them as one fumble set up a 2nd quarter TD for the Wildcats.

Arizona 6 13 3 14-36
 BYU 0 0 14 6-20

1st Downs AU 23 BYU 22
 Rush. yd. 57-235 39-66
 Pass. yd. 168 387
 Ret. yd. 48 2
 Passes 10-15-0 27-44-2
 Punts 4-44.0 3-49.0
 Fum.-lost 1-0 1-1
 Pen. yd. 2-15 4-50

Totals after 7 games

1st Downs A 123 OPP 134
 Rush. yd. 201-1308 310-1382
 Pass. yd. 1212 1232
 Ret. yd. 143 95
 Passes 45-80-1 97-211-6
 Punts 31-41.2 44-39.8
 Fum.-lost 11-1 18-9
 Pen. yd. 10-115 21-195

1st Downs SDS 142 UOP 13
 Rush. yd. 32-151 42-115
 Pass. yd. 324 93
 Ret. yd. 1 41
 Passes 29-39-1 7-15-1
 Punts 4-35.0 8-39.0
 Fum.-lost 1-1 6-2
 Pen. yd. 9-104 4-45

Totals after 8 games

1st Downs SDS 142 OPP 110
 Rush. yd. 246-1298 301-886
 Pass. yd. 1968 936
 Ret. yd. 96 87
 Passes 186-311-6 58-125-9
 Punts 28-36.2 52-38.7
 Fum.-lost 19-5 23-10
 Pen. yd. 32-339 31-320

Despite San Diego State's excellent record, the fine arm of their QB Penrose, and the home-field advantage in this contest, Arizona figures to be tough this Saturday. Both teams have good offenses and accomplished defenses, but a review of their testing schedule reveals that Arizona has had the generally more team with such an outstanding record of passing for more total yardage than their ground game could muster, but there is some question whether they can expect good passing success against the tight defense of Arizona. The Wildcats' better rushing/passing offensive attack should make the difference in this contest. Look for Arizona to prevail in a high-scoring game.

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CINCINNATI BENGALS

PREDICTION 2nd

Al Heim, the Cincinnati Bengals' public relations director, was spending a quiet night at home late last New Year's eve when his phone rang. The caller was his boss, Paul Brown.

"I think you better call the newspapers and radio-TV tomorrow," said Brown, then left on a vacation trip to California.

What he wanted Heim to tell the media, was that Paul Brown would not be coaching the Bengals anymore. One of the greatest careers in the history of football was at an end.

The new man on one of the hottest spots in the NFL is Bill Johnson, Brown's coaching aide-de-camp since the Cincinnati franchise was founded in 1968. Brown was the only previous head coach the Bengals ever had.

PB's legacy is a team which

KEN ANDERSON, Bengals, led the NFL in passing the past 2 years.



made it to Round 1 of the playoffs last year. It lost to Oakland after a valiant comeback late in the game failed. It is a team which can score, mostly through the air, but one which can be scored upon by the good offensive units.

What will Cincinnati be like without Brown as coach?

What was Green Bay like without Vince Lombardi as coach? Lombardi retired to the general manager's chair, a position Brown will occupy from now on, after his Packers won their second Super Bowl in 1968. Phil Bengtson, a longtime trusted aide like Johnson, succeeded Lombardi.

The Packers declined and Bengtson flopped as a head coach.

But there is a difference between the two teams.

Green Bay had peaked. Bart Starr had just begun to decline as a top quarterback. Paul Hornung and Jim Taylor were finished. The Pack was to find out that Donnie Anderson and Jim Grabowski were not the dynasty-extendors everyone seemed to think they were. The great defenders like Willie Davis, Henry Jordan, Willie Wood and Herb Adderley were almost used up.

Cincinnati is still a young team.

The Bengals have a bright young quarterback, Ken Anderson, who hasn't approached his best days. The big offensive line should be at its best now. Isaac Curtis, the swift receiver, is just learning his craft. Good drafts have begun to replenish and repair this team.

Just how well Johnson handles the situation depends upon himself and Brown, who will be very much a working executive. Johnson, however, never has been a head coach. There is a difference in being the No. 1 aide and in being No. 1.

Johnson is a craggy, old-fashioned type who doesn't seem to

BILL JOHNSON, Coach.

Assistants: Jack Donaldson, Mike McCormack, Chuck Studley, Kim Wood, Howard Brinker, Charley Winner, Boyd Dowler.



BILL JOHNSON is the new Bengals head coach after 8 seasons as aide.

fit the image of the successful modern pro coach. But Bum Phillips didn't seem to fit the image either and he was 10-4 in his rookie season in Houston last year.

It could help Johnson to have the austere, authoritarian image of Brown up in the executive suite where the players know he will broach no deviation in method just because he isn't the coach any more.

To help Johnson make the adjustment, the Bengals hired two recently-deposed NFL head coaches as assistants. Mike McCormack, sacked by Philadelphia, will coach the offensive line. Charley Winner, dropped by the Jets, will coach the secondary. Both are widely admired for their teaching skills.

What the Bengals do best is throw the football.

Anderson, the squeaky-clean "Man of the Year" in the NFL, is every mother's ideal as a son and every coaches ideal as a quarterback. The youngster from Augustana College led the league in passing the last two years.

His 228 completions accounted

for 3169 yards—he was the only passer to reach 3000—and 21 touchdowns. His completion percentage was a glittering 60.5.

He doesn't lean on any one receiver, even though Curtis is the most productive catcher. Isaac caught 47 for a 19.9 yard average and seven touchdowns last year but running back Bobbie Clark caught 42, departed wide receiver Charlie Joiner, 37, Chip Myers 36, running back Essex Johnson 25, tight end Bob Trumpy 22 and running back Lenvil Elliott 20.

Even with Joiner having been traded to San Diego for defensive line help, Coy Bacon, the Bengals still have versatility at the wide receiver position. When he wants a possession catcher in the lineup, John can choose Myers. When he wants speed on both sides, he can pair his No. 1 draft choice, Oklahoma's Billy Brooks, with Curtis.

Brooks wasn't even a fulltime starter with the Sooners, since Oklahoma plays the run-saturated Wishbone offense, but NFL scouts were almost unanimous in predicting a major commercial future for Billy.

Johnson also will get a long

look at Pat McNally, the former Harvard star drafted last year. McNally's pro debut was postponed when he broke a leg catching a touchdown pass against the Pittsburgh Steelers in the College All-Star game.

Behind them, the Bengals have speedy John McDaniel and rookies Lonnie Algood of Syracuse and Joe Dale Harris of Alabama.

Trumpy begins his eighth season as the starter at tight end. Bruce Coslet has been his backup over the same stretch. John Novak will struggle for a place on the roster.

What the Bengals don't do particularly well is run the ball.

Clark is a plodding fullback who led the team with 594 yards. Stan Fritts is another fullback with strong possibilities. He knows the way to the end zone, having scored 10 touchdowns as a rookie last year.

But what the Bengals really need is a halfback with verve, quickness, dash and durability. They took their shot at a player of that description with their second selection in Round 2 of the draft.

He is Archie Griffin, the two-

time Heisman Trophy winner from Ohio State.

Archie isn't big and he's not all that fast. But no one can argue with what he accomplished for the Buckeyes. The Bengals respected that. They think he might be a Mike Garrett-type back for them.

Behind him, they have Elliott and Johnson, whose career has been threatened by injuries plus Charlie Davis, who showed flashes of outstanding football as a rookie in '74, then was injured last year. Randy Walker was drafted out of Miami of Ohio. Other fullbacks are big Ed Williams and Griffin's old running mate from Ohio State, Champ Henson.

McCormack gets to work with a first-rate line.

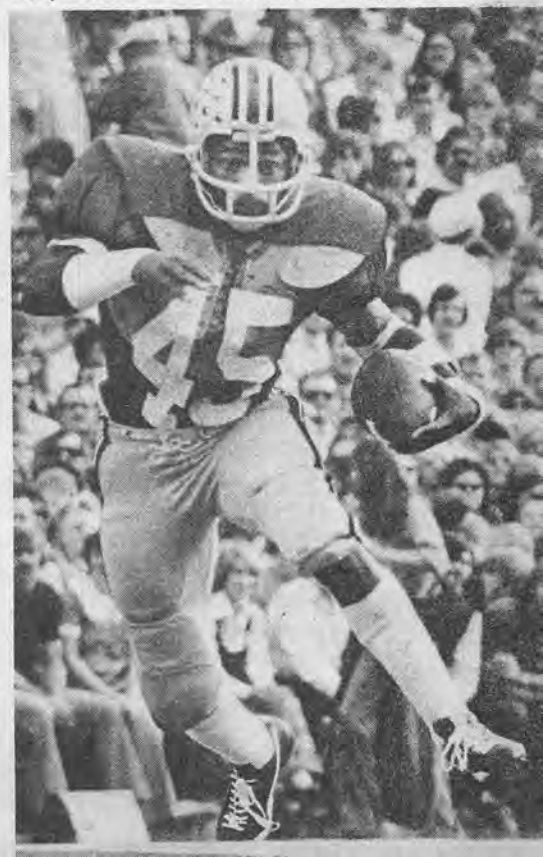
Bob Johnson is one of the best centers in the NFL and the tackles, All-pro Vernon Holland and Rufus McKay, are superior. Since the Bengals still use the messenger guard system, they'll have to find a new buddy for John Shinnners and Dave Lapham. Howard Fest went to Tampa Bay in the expansion draft.



CHIP MYERS, left, is reliable Cincinnati wide receiver, and for the big play they go to fleet and steady ISAAC CURTIS, 4-year vet.



ARCHIE GRIFFIN, ex-Ohio State star, could fill void for Bengals.



Rookies Glenn Bujnock of Texas A&M, Greg Fairchild of Tulsa, Ron Hunt of Oregon and Ohio State's Scott Dennelley are in the fight along with converted defensive end Gary Burley. The best line reserve is second-year tackle Al Krevis.

The most helpful rookie of all may be Penn State's great place kicker, Chris Bahr. Punter Dave Green doubled as the field goaler last year and wasn't confused with Horst Muhlmann, who is gone to Philadelphia. He was 18 for 33 as a college senior. The Bengals also drafted Ohio State's field goal kicker Tom Klaban, then dealt him to the Chicago Bears in June.

It's defensively that the Bengals need some help.

Too many good running teams did too well against them last year. They missed Mike Reid, who gave up playing defensive tackle to play the piano on the cabaret circuit. To get a stopper, Joiner was traded to the Chargers for Bacon, whom Johnson hopes has something left at age 33.

With Reid gone, there are no Pro Bowl types in the defensive line. The best is Ron Carpenter, a sound tackle. Sherman White and Ken Johnson are journeyman ends. Bill Kollar, whose quickness rivaled that of Reid, hasn't produced in a big way yet. Royce Berry will try to come back at defensive end after missing a year due to a broken wrist. Big Richard Bishop comes down from Canada after two years of play up there after spurning the Bengals' offer in '74.

Jim LeClair was pushed into his best season at middle linebacker by last year's first-round draft pick, Glenn Cameron. Cameron may be useful elsewhere, now. Even at his improved pace, LeClair is no Bill Bergey.

Cinci could use an injection of youth at the outside backer spots. Al Beauchamp was sent to St. Louis for a draft choice and Ron Pritchard doesn't give his old quickness at 29. The challenges should come from two youngsters, Bo Harris and Chris Devlin, who watched as rookies last year. A surprise could come

from Dartmouth's Reggie Williams, one of the genuine sleepers in the last draft.

Other linebackers available include Brad Cousino and rookie Ken Kuhn, another Ohio Stater.

With Lemar Parrish, the veteran corner back asking to be traded and two other deep defenders, Lyle Blackwood and Rickie Davis, gone in the expansion pool, the Bengals stocked up on defensive backs in the draft. The top two are USC's Danny Reece, who might challenge Bernard Jackson for a safety job, and Scott Perry of Williams, another sleeper.

The solid men in the secondary are strong safety Tommy Casanova and corner Ken Riley.

The special teams should get some added oomph.

With Bahr taking over from Green as the field goaler, Dave can concentrate on his punting. He averaged a mediocre 39 yards last year. Also drafted was Greg Cokeman, the Florida A&M punter. Ex Chicago Bear field goaler Mirro Roder was signed as a free agent.

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Green, 70 points on 40 XP, 10 field goals	15th
RUSHING —Clark, 167 carries for 594 yds., 3.6 Avg., 4 TDs	16th
PASSING —Anderson, 228 of 377 attempts for 3169 yds., 21 TDs	1st
RECEIVING —Curtis, 44 receptions for 934 yds., 7 TDs	10th
INTERCEPTIONS —Riley, 6 for 76 yds., 12.7 Avg., 1 TD	8th
PUNTING —Green, 68 punts, 39.0 Avg., longest 57 yds.	9th
PUNT RETURNS —Blackwood, 23 for 123 yds., 5.3 Avg.	11th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Jackson, 25 for 587 yds., 23.5 Avg.	10th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 AT Green Bay (N)
Aug.	7 BUFFALO (N)
	14 DETROIT (N)
	21 AT Minnesota (N)
	28 AT New Orleans (N)
Sept.	4 AT Tampa Bay (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

Sept.	12 DENVER	17-16
	19 AT Baltimore	—
	26 GREEN BAY	—
Oct.	3 AT Cleveland	23-35
	10 TAMPA BAY	—
	17 AT Pittsburgh	14-35
	24 AT Houston	21-19
	31 CLEVELAND	24-17
Nov.	8 LOS ANGELES (N)	—
	14 HOUSTON	23-19
	21 AT Kansas City	—
	28 PITTSBURGH	24-30
Dec.	6 AT Oakland	14-10
	12 AT N.Y. Jets	—



TOMMY CASANOVA is key figure in the Cincinnati secondary again.

BENGALS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
14	Anderson, Ken	QB	6-2	211	26	6	Augustana
82	Berry, Royce	DE	6-4	250	30	7	Houston
	Bishop, Richard	DT	6-1	275	26	1	Louisville
78	Brown, Bob	DT	6-5	280	36	12	Ark. A&M
	Burley, Gary	DE	6-3	255	23	1	Pittsburgh
50	Cameron, Glenn	LB	6-2	231	23	2	Florida
70	Carpenter, Ron	DE	6-4	261	28	7	N. C. State
37	Casanova, Tom	S	6-2	195	25	5	LSU
42	Clark, Charles	RB	6-2	245	25	4	B.-Cookman
24	Cobb, Marvin	CB	6-0	185	23	2	USC
88	Coslet, Bruce	TE	6-3	227	29	8	Pacific
52	Cousino, Brad	LB	6-0	219	23	2	Miami (O)
85	Curtis, Isaac	WR	6-1	193	25	4	S. Diego St.
26	Davis, Charles	RB	5-11	200	24	2	Colorado
51	Devlin, Chris	LB	6-3	222	22	2	Penn St.
36	Elliott, Lenvil	RB	6-0	205	25	4	N.E. Mo. St.
33	Fritts, Stan	RB	6-1	215	23	2	N.C. State
41	Green, Dave	K-P	6-0	208	26	4	Ohio U.
53	Harris, Bo	LB	6-3	230	23	2	LSU
38	Henson, Champ	RB	6-3	240	23	2	Ohio St.
76	Holland, Vern	T	6-6	268	28	6	Tenn. St.
23	Jackson, B.	S-CB	6-0	178	26	5	Wash. State
54	Johnson, Bob	C	6-5	255	29	9	Tennessee
19	Johnson, Essex	RB	5-10	201	29	9	Grambling
80	Johnson, Ken	DT	6-6	260	29	6	Indiana
68	Kollar, Bill	DT	6-4	250	23	3	Montana
75	Krevis, Al	T	6-5	263	24	2	Boston Col.
62	Lapham, Dave	T	6-4	258	24	3	Syracuse
55	Leclair, Jim	LB	6-3	235	25	5	No. Dakota
71	Mayes, Rufus	T	6-5	260	28	8	Ohio St.
65	Moore, Mauly	DT	6-5	265	30	5	B.-Cookman
86	McDaniel, John	WR	6-1	193	24	3	Lincoln
	McNally, Pat	WR	6-6	210	23	1	Harvard
25	Myers, Chip	WR	6-6	205	31	9	N.W. Okla.
89	Novak, Jack	TE	6-4	242	23	2	Wisconsin
20	Parrish, Lemar	CB	5-11	185	28	7	Lincoln
60	Pritchard, Ron	LB	6-1	230	29	8	Arizona St.
11	Reaves, John	QB	6-3	210	26	5	Florida
13	Riley, Ken	CB	5-11	182	28	8	Fla. A&M
	Roder, Mirro	P-K	6-1	218	32	3	None
64	Shinners, John	G	6-3	255	29	8	Xavier
84	Trumpy, Bob	TE	6-6	228	30	9	Utah
83	White, Sherman	DE	6-5	250	27	5	California
43	Williams, Ed	RB	6-2	245	24	3	Langston
	Bacon, Coy	DE	6-4	270	33	9	Jackson St.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Brooks, Billy	WR	6-4	215	21	Oklahoma
Griffin, Archie	RB	5-8½	189	21	Ohio St.
Bujnock, Glenn	G	6-5	247	22	Tex. A&M
Bahr, Chris	PK	5-9½	160	23	Penn St.
Reece, Danny	S	5-11	187½	21	USC
Williams, Reggie	LB	6-1	220	21	Dartmouth
Davis, Tony	RB	6-0	212	23	Nebraska
Fairchild, Greg	G-T	6-4½	258	22	Tulsa
Shelby, W.	DB-WR	6-0	185	22	Alabama
Perry, Scott	DB	6-0	180	22	Williams
Nelson, Orlando	TE	6-4	224	22	Utah St.
Bateman, Bob	QB	6-5	195	22	Brown
Rome, C. "Pete"	CB	6-0	190	22	Miami, (O)
Kuhn, Ken	LB	6-1	233	21	Ohio St.
Hunt, Ron	T	6-5	285	21	Oregon
Allgood, Lonnie	WR	6-1	190	22	Syracuse
Morgan, Melvin	DB	5-11	169	23	Miss. Val.
Harris, Joe Dale	WR	6-2	191	24	Alabama
Walker, Randy	RB	5-9	205	22	Miami, (O)
Coleman, Greg	P	6-0	180	21	Fla. A&M
Hieber, Lynn	QB	6-2	195	22	Indiana Pa.
Demopolous, G. C.	G	6-4	255	22	Miami, Fla.
Dannelley, Scott	T	6-3	250	21	Ohio St.

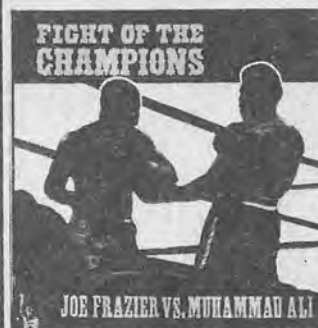
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25. SOCCER (Germany vs. England)
26. NHL PLAYOFFS 73
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HOUSTON OILERS

O. A. PHILLIPS, Coach.

Assistants: Ed Biles, Ken McCullough, Wade Phillips, Andy Bourgeois, King Hill, George Rice, Richie Petitbon, Fran Poltfoot.

PREDICTION 3rd

Obviously, what the Houston Oilers needed all along was the Bum's rush.

Bum Phillips is your standard Good 'Ol Boy from the country. Cowboy boots. Burrhead haircut. Open-necked sports shirt. Easy-going manner. Aw shucks attitude.

That may not run up the flag on Madison Ave., but for the Oilers it meant a 10-4 won-lost record. The Oilers were a football corpse just a few years ago.

Everyone likes Bum. Almost no one would have predicted he would have a season like he had as a rookie coach. When Sid Gillman finished at .500 the year before with the Oilers, he won coach of the year awards.

But the Oilers beat everyone they played except Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, each of whom won a pair of games from Houston. Unfortunately, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati are the teams which the Oilers have to beat, otherwise you would have seen 'Ol Bum along the sidelines in the playoffs.

How do you explain the Oilers? It isn't easy. For the most part it's a question of things just working out. There were some good drafts. Trades panned out well. Things fit into place.

The Oilers got better defensively, chopping 52 points off their yield. That figured, since super tackle Curley Culp was spending his first full year with the team and the defensive unit had fully absorbed the new three-man line concept.

To say the Oilers had a good draft is to indulge in understatement.

They had two first-round choices. With the first they selected Robert Brazile, the big linebacker from Jackson State. Almost from opening day he became one of the foremost "hit" men in the NFL, a nearly-unanimous choice for the league's



DAN PASTORINI, coming into his own as a quarterback and now in his sixth season as pro, gets good protection from guard RON SAUL.

rookie of the year on defense. It should be difficult to keep the 6-4, 235-pounder off all-pro lists in the future.

With the other pick they took Texas A&I's 6-2, 235-pound fullback Don Hardeman. When Hardeman signed, he boasted that he would tear up defensive lines and protect quarterback Dan Pastorini with his blocking. People laughed at his brashness. But when the season finished, the laughter had evaporated. He made good on his promises.

Most of all, the Oilers made big plays:

—Billy Johnson broke open a relatively close game with Cleveland by returning the second-half kickoff 81 yards for a touchdown, turning the contest into a rout.

—Culp and Brazile and their defensive colleagues hounded Billy Kilmer and the Washington Redskins for a 13-10 upset loss. It was the first time the Oilers ever beat a National Conference team.

—Ken Burrough caught touchdown passes of 77 and 57 yards

to beat Kansas City, 17-13.

—Ronnie Coleman, the kid halfback, broke a half dozen tackles on a 10-yard run for the winning points and Bubba Smith blocked two extra point attempts by Garo Yepremian in a 20-19 upset victory over Miami.

—Dan Pastorini threw three touchdown passes in a 27-26 upset victory over Oakland.

People got so excited about the Oilers in Houston that Bud Adams, who founded the team back in the AFL's formative meeting of 1959, dropped his announced plans to sell. Bud was having too much fun.

Pastorini, who started a personal rehabilitation program under Sid Gillman during the Oilers' 7-7 awakening of '74, began to acquire polish last year. He accumulated 2053 yards, completed 163 passes and threw for 14 touchdowns. His interception rate was a highly-respectable 4.7.

While the Oilers ranked 23d in the NFL in passing, it helped Pastorini that he was sacked only

23 times. Only Buffalo, Miami and Oakland had better pass-protection records in the AFC.

Pastorini's longtime understudy, Lynn Dickey, was swapped to Green Bay after the season for corner Ken Ellis and John Hadl, once one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL. Hadl not only provides a wise old head for emergency situations but also should help Pastorini improve through good advice and counsel.

The principal target for the passers is Burrough, once considered a bust when he was with New Orleans, but now seen as one of the most dangerous receivers in the league.

Big Ken, with his long stride, led the NFL in yardage receiving with 1063. His 53 receptions were exceeded by only three wide receivers. His per-catch average was 20.1 yards and he scored eight touchdowns.

The man opposite Burrough is Billy "White Shoes" Johnson, who is better known as the master of the punt and kick return. But the little guy from Widener College caught 37 passes last year, although his 10.6 per-catch average wasn't impressive.

The unknown factor is ex-Kansas City great Otis Taylor.

Mac Alston became the first Houston tight end ever to catch three scoring passes in one game last year, but he caught only 18 balls overall for a 9.2 average and now he's susceptible to a challenge. It will come from the team's top draftee (second round), Louisiana Tech's Mike Barber. Barber has plenty of speed and wide-receiver's ability as a catcher.

Johnson could be pressed by the second draft pick, Tulsa wide receiver Steve Largent.

The bench includes ex Dolphin Mel Baker, seasoned Jim Beirne, Emmett Edwards, Nate Hawkins and three tight ends—Larry Mia-lik, John Sawyer and 34-year-old Willie Frazier, back in Houston where he started.

Coleman, a walk-on who got his chance during the player strike two years ago, led the team in ground gaining with 790 yards in 175 carries, a 4.5-yard average. He's a 5-10, 195-pounder from Alabama A&M and he's hungry.



GEORGE HONEYCUTT, Houston Chronicle, won Hall of Fame photography contest showing Houston's JOHN SAWYER using his head to score TD.

Hardeman wasn't far behind with 648 yards in 166 trips, a 3.9 average. Like Coleman, he scored five touchdowns rushing.

Fred Willis was the top relief man. The one-time starter gained 420 yards in 118 trips. Also available is seasoned Willie Rodgers, James Ford and Robert Holmes, the ex-Kansas City Chief.

Skip Walker of Texas A&M was the only drafted rookie.

The mystery is how the Oilers generate points with such an anonymous offensive line.

They line up with Carl Mauck, formerly of Miami and San Diego, at center. Ron Saul and Ed Fisher, not exactly household names, are the guards. Greg Sampson, drafted No. 1 as a defensive tackle five years ago, and Kevin Hunt are the offensive tackles.

In reserve are guard Conway Hayman, 33-year-old tackle Elbert Drungo and four rookie tackles, Todd Simonsen of South Dakota State, Bobby Simon of Grambling, Larry Bell of East Texas State and John Reimer of Wisconsin.

It doesn't sound like much, but apparently it works.

Defense is Bum Phillips' game. He's been teaching it at the high-school, college and pro level for years. His teams play it well. Nobody ran on Houston last

year. The Oilers had the best record against the rush in the American Conference. Only Minnesota and Los Angeles did better in the entire NFL.

What the Oilers use is the "Oklahoma," the 3-4 defense—three down linemen with Culp in the middle, and four linebackers. The two outside linebackers, Brazile and 6-1, 252-pound Ted Washington, function as defensive ends part of the time.

"The three-four is the best run defense there is," says Phillips. "It's a lot easier to find four linebackers than it is to find four defensive linemen."

Inside of Brazile and Washington, who are both savage blitzers when it's pass-rush time, are Gregg Bingham and Steve Kiner. Bingham is a squatty wildman who seems attracted to the ball and Kiner, now that he's cleaned up his act, is playing the kind of football he played in his first year with New England.

The reserves are Guy Roberts, Ted Thompson and Duane Benson, who served hitches in Oakland and Atlanta. Drafted were Ball State's Art Stringer and Florida A&M's Claude Johnson.

Culp makes the front three go. The ex-Arizona State wrestler has the strength and quickness to occupy the center and at least one guard while his cohorts do

damage around him. Curley scored his first pro touchdown last year when he carried a San Diego fumble 38 yards into the end zone.

The men flanking him are ex-Cowboy Tody Smith and Elvin Bethea, who was starring for Houston even when the team was a hopeless case. Both men are strong and quick. Tody's older brother, Bubba, is the principal relief. He can be troublesome, as the Dolphins can testify.

Zeke Moore had a sound year at corner back, but he'll be 33 before the season ends so newcomer Ellis poses a problem for him. Willie Alexander is big and swift on the other side.

Ex-Redskin Willie Germany and C. L. Whittington man the safeties. Behind them are one-time starter Bob Atkins, ex-Raider Ken Pope and Preston Anderson. Greg Stemrick is an extra corner and Cheyney State's Bobby Byars came in the draft.

More than a little of Houston's success came via special teams.

Johnson is the NFL's leading lifetime punt returner and he led the league last year with a 15.3-yard average on 40 returns, including three touchdowns of 52 yards against Detroit, 83 against Miami and 63 against Cincinnati.

He had a 24.2-yard kickoff return average, which included his

RONNIE COLEMAN led the Oilers in rushing last season, his second.



BILLY JOHNSON, left, electrified and KEN BURROUGH averaged 20



the fans with the kick returns yards per catch for Oilers in 1975.

touchdown against the Browns.

The Oilers were the only AFC team not to allow a touchdown return last year.

Half the schedule will be played against teams with winning records last year. In addition to the home-and-home schedule with Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, Buffalo, Oakland and Baltimore will be met.

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Butler, 85 points on 31 XP, 18 field goals	7th
RUSHING —Coleman, 175 carries for 790 yds., 4.5 Avg., 5 TDs	8th
PASSING —Pastorini, 163 of 342 attempts for 2053 yds., 14 TDs	10th
RECEIVING —Burrough, 53 receptions for 1063 yds., 8 TDs	4th
INTERCEPTIONS —Moore, 5 for 137 yds., 27.4 Avg.	11th
PUNTING —Pastorini, 62 punts, 39.5 Avg., longest 68 yds.	7th
PUNT RETURNS —Johnson, 40 for 612 yds., 15.3 Avg., 3 TDs	1st
KICKOFF RETURNS —Johnson, 33 for 798 yds., 24.2 Avg., 1 TD	7th

Pre-Season Games

Aug.	2 AT Kansas City
	7 NEW ORLEANS (N)
	14 N.Y. GIANTS (N)
	21 N.Y. JETS (N)
	28 MIAMI
Sept.	4 AT Dallas (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 TAMPA BAY	—
19 AT Buffalo	—
26 OAKLAND	27-26
Oct. 3 AT New Orleans	—
10 DENVER	—
17 AT San Diego	33-17
24 CINCINNATI	19-21
Nov. 1 AT Baltimore (N)	—
7 CLEVELAND	21-10
14 AT Cincinnati	19-23
21 AT Pittsburgh	17-24
28 ATLANTA	—
Dec. 5 AT Cleveland	40-10
11 PITTSBURGH	9-32

OILERS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
19	Alexander, W.	CB	6-3	195	27	6	Alcorn A&M
82	Alston, Mack	TE	6-3	230	29	7	Maryland St.
	Anderson, P.	DB	6-1	180	25	2	Rice
48	Atkins, Bob	FS	6-4	210	30	9	Grambling
	Baker, Melvin	WR	6-0	182	26	3	Tex. So'ern
88	Beirne, Jim	WR	6-2	208	30	9	Purdue
50	Benson, Duane	LB	6-2	225	31	10	Hamline
65	Bethea, Elvin	DE	6-2	260	30	9	N.C. A&T
54	Bingham, G.	MLB	6-1	230	25	4	Purdue
52	Brazile, Robert	LB	6-4	235	23	2	Jackson St.
00	Burrough, Ken	WR	6-3	210	28	7	Tex. So'ern
	Burton, Albert	DT	6-5	270	24	1	B. Cookman
2	Butler, Skip	KI	6-0	200	29	7	Tex. Arlington
	Campbell, C.	DT	6-3	250	29	5	Weber St.
63	Carroll, Ronnie	C	6-2	265	27	2	S. Hous. St.
47	Coleman, R.	RB	5-10	195	25	3	Ala. A&M
78	Culp, Curley	DT	6-1	265	30	9	Arizona St.
75	Drungo, Elbert	T	6-4	265	33	8	Tenn. State
87	Edwards, E.	WR	6-1	187	24	2	Kansas
40	Ellis, Ken	CB	5-11	190	29	7	Southern
60	Fisher, Ed	G	6-3	250	27	3	Arizona St.
	Ford, James	RB	6-1	220	27	2	Tex. So'ern
83	Frazier, Willie	TE	6-5	245	34	10	Ark. AMCN
29	Germany, Willie	SS	6-0	192	27	4	Morgan St.
21	Hadi, John	QB	6-1	214	36	15	Kansas
30	Hardeman, Don	RB	6-2	235	24	2	Texas A&I
86	Hawkins, Nat	WR	6-1	190	26	2	Las Vegas
70	Hayman, Conway	G	6-3	262	27	4	Delaware
36	Holmes, Robert	RB	5-9	221	31	8	Southern
72	Hunt, Kevin	T	6-5	260	28	5	Doane (Neb.)
	Hunt, Robert	RB	6-2	205	25	2	Heidelberg
84	Johnson, Billy	WR	5-9	170	24	3	Widener
57	Kiner, Steve	MLB	6-1	220	29	6	Tennessee
	Lemon, Mike	MLB	6-2	220	25	1	Kansas
80	Little, John	DT	6-3	250	29	7	Okla. State
55	Mauck, Carl	C	6-4	250	29	8	Southern Ill.
89	Mialik, Larry	TE	6-2	230	26	5	Wisconsin
22	Moore, Zeke	CB	6-3	196	33	10	Lincoln
	Napper, Charles	QB	6-1	195	27	2	Texas Tech
20	Parks, Billy	WR	6-1	190	28	6	Long Beach
7	Pastorini, Dan	QB	6-3	205	27	6	Santa Clara
	Pope, Kenith	DB	6-0	205	25	1	Okla. State
56	Roberts, Guy	MLB	6-1	220	26	5	Maryland
34	Rodgers, Willie	RB	6-1	210	27	5	Kentucky St.
73	Sampson, Greg	T	6-6	265	26	5	Stanford
64	Saul, Ron	G	6-2	255	28	7	Mich. State
81	Sawyer, John	TE	6-2	230	23	2	So. Miss.
77	Smith, Bubba	DE	6-7	265	31	9	Mich. State
85	Smith, Tody	DE	6-5	250	28	6	So. Calif.
27	Stemrick, Greg	CB	5-11	185	25	2	Colo. State
	Thomas, Lee	DE	6-6	245	31	5	Jackson St.
51	Thompson, Ted	LB	6-1	220	23	2	S. Methodist
	Walker, Mike	DE	6-4	235	27	1	Tulane
59	Washington, Ted	LB	6-1	245	28	4	Miss. Valley
79	White, Jim	DE	6-4	255	28	4	Colo. State
38	Whittington, C.L.	FS	6-1	200	24	3	Pr. View A&M
44	Willis, Fred	RB	6-0	205	29	6	Boston Col.

ROOKIES

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
	Barber, Mike	TE	6-2	235	23	La. Tech.
	Bell, Larry	T	6-2	291	23	E. Tex. St.
	Byers, Bobby	DB	6-1	185	24	Cheyney St.
	Harris, Larry	G	6-3	274	22	Okla. State
	Johnson, C.	MLB	6-0	230	23	Fla. A&M
15	Kincannon, S.	QB	6-4	228	23	Humboldt St.
	Largent, Steve	WR	5-11	184	22	Tulsa Univ.
	Misher, Allen	WR	6-2	170	22	La. State
	O'Rourke, Dan	WR	5-10	194	22	Colo. State
	Reimer, John	T	6-3	265	22	Wisconsin
	Simon, Bobby	G	6-3	252	24	Grambling
	Simonsen, Todd	T	6-4	287	22	So. Dak. St.
	Stringer, Art	LB	6-1	223	22	Bail State
32	Walker, A. (Skip)	RB	5-9	184	22	Texas A&M

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John Bruni's Standings at the end of his 1974 Pro Football League Replay

AMERICAN EAST

	Won	Lost	Tied
Miami	12	2	0
Buffalo	11	3	0
New York	7	7	0
Baltimore	2	12	0
New England	2	12	0

NATIONAL EAST

	Won	Lost	Tied
Dallas	9	5	0
Philadelphia	8	6	0
Washington	7	7	0
New York	6	8	0
St. Louis	6	8	0

AMERICAN CENTRAL

	Won	Lost	Tied
Pittsburgh	10	3	1
Cincinnati	8	6	0
Cleveland	6	8	0
Houston	5	9	0

NATIONAL CENTRAL

	Won	Lost	Tied
Minnesota	11	3	0
Green Bay	9	5	0
Chicago	5	9	0
Detroit	4	10	0

AMERICAN WEST

	Won	Lost	Tied
Denver	10	4	0
Oakland	9	4	1
San Diego	4	10	0
Kansas City	2	12	0

NATIONAL WEST

	Won	Lost	Tied
San Franc.	8	6	0
Atlanta	7	7	0
New Orleans	7	7	0
Los Angeles	6	8	0

Divisional Championship Scores

American: Denver 26 Pittsburgh 14 National: Minnesota 13 Dallas 10

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CLEVELAND BROWNS

PREDICTION 4th

It was a glimpse back into the good old days. Art Modell held up a No. 42 jersey for fit on the newly-signed player in Cleveland's Municipal Stadium while flashbulbs popped and everyone smiled. The new Brown was Paul Warfield. The scene took place last spring.

It was much more than nostalgia. Warfield, who returns as a prodigal from Memphis of the now-defunct World Football League, didn't sign with the Browns again for old time's sake.

Even at age 33 and with 12 seasons of pro ball behind him, Warfield can still be an important contributor to this Cleveland club. And how the Browns need contributors! They experienced their worst season in history last year, winning only three games.

Only an upset victory over

FORREST GREGG suffered a lot in his first year as Browns coach.



arch-rival Cincinnati in Paul Brown's last confrontation as a coach with his old club, plus a late-season pasting of Kansas City kept the season from being an absolute total loss for Modell, one of the NFL's most involved owners.

Nothing seemed to go right in Forrest Gregg's rookie year as head coach. It didn't get much better once the season ended, either. Gregg entered a hospital in mid-March for removal of a malignant mole on his thigh. For weeks there were rumors in Cleveland that Gregg would never see another season. But tests showed the cancer hadn't spread and the coach was given a clean bill of health.

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Houston should seem easy after that battle.

The Browns are trying the upbeat route this season. Most people look at their 3-11 record, their tough division and the roster and think of them as sunk in a bottomless pit.

But Modell and his followers look upon the '75 season as having two parts. The first part was a nightmare, 0-9, when nothing seemed to go right. The second part was a glimpse of some light at the end of the tunnel.

For one thing, the team's won-lost record was 3-2 over the last five games. Included was the stunning upset over blood-rival Cincinnati and the pasting of Kansas City.

For another thing, quarterback Mike Phipps had three 200-yard games in the last five contests. Now 200-yard days may be routine to a Joe Namath or Ken Anderson, but Phipps never had even one in nearly six full seasons as a pro.

Phipps may be the most controversial player in the history of the Cleveland franchise. It was for his drafting rights that Modell traded Warfield to Miami in 1970. Warfield flourished with

FORREST GREGG, Coach.

Assistants: Dick Modzelewski, Al Tabor, Blanton Collier, Rod Humenuik, Walt Corey, George Sejcik, Raymond Berry, Billy Kinard.

the Dolphins, playing a major role in the teams' three consecutive marches to the Super Bowl.

Meanwhile, while Paul flourished, Phipps was floundering.

He sputtered and performed in fits and starts unable to take command of the team even when veteran Bill Nelson was literally playing on one leg. In the last two years he has had trouble keeping the job from Brian Sipe, a quarterback of modest talents.

All that while, people in the Cleveland organization pledged their allegiance to his potential. Even Nick Skorich, a man who had benched him for Sipe, took pains to salute Mike's possibilities even after he had been fired as head coach.

Ironically, Warfield went out of his way to praise Phipps at his

MIKE PHIPPS has yet to blossom as the QB the Browns are looking for.



own signing last spring.

If Phipps doesn't show marked improvement this season there won't be many excuses left. He has been provided with the best group of receivers he's seen since he turned pro. Warfield will be 34 in November, but he is an athlete who practiced the strictest self discipline and trained diligently. Neither his year in the WFL nor his final season with the Dolphins were any indications that his skills had diminished much.

Reggie Rucker, who came to the Browns last year in a trade with New England, was the leading pass catcher among NFL wide receivers with 60. Only Minnesota's Chuck Foreman, a running back, caught more. Rucker was one of the season's great bargains. He cost the Browns a mere fourth-round draft choice.

At tight end, rookie Oscar Roan, a one time basketball prospect on Bill Walton's freshman team at UCLA, muscled veteran Milt Morin out of the lineup. Roan, built along the lines of a wide receiver, caught 41 passes,

the best for a Brown tight end since 1968, when Morin, once an all-pro, caught 43.

The draft brought an interesting new receiver to the roster. He's Dave Logan of Colorado, another ex basketball player who might have been a first-round choice except for the injuries which plagued him in college.

Still on the roster is mystery man Steve Holden, once a first-rounder draftee who never has quite made it as a pro. He did catch 21 passes for a 15.2 average last year. Willie Miller and Billy Lefear, better known as a kick returner, are behind him.

Morin, who did not catch a pass last year, is still on the roster but if Gregg wants to commit totally to youth he can go with Gary Parris or a rookie, Joe Smalzer of Illinois—or Logan. Dartmouth's Tom Fleming is another rookie on the draft list.

In the event Phipps can't find those fellows often enough, there is always Sipe or Will Cureton. Top draftee is Gene Swick of Toledo. Craig Nagel of Purdue also was selected.

The Browns liked what Greg Pruitt did so much last year that they made his namesake their No. 1 draft choice. Purdue's Mike Pruitt, a big, swift fullback is the odds-on favorite to line up alongside Greg Pruitt and behind Phipps by September.

Greg Pruitt's season represented the type of work people thought he might do when he came out of the University of Oklahoma as a certified whirlwind. He gained 1067 yards in his third pro season. He had a 214-yard day against Kansas City and only Jim Brown and Bobby Mitchell ever did better than that in the annals of the club. His total yardage was the best season for a runner since Leroy Kelly had 1239 in 1968.

Greg also returned punts, ran back kickoffs, caught passes and ran up 1745 in total yardage.

Neither Billy Pritchett, the big rookie nor Hugh McKinnis could give Gregg what he was looking for as a fullback. The Browns looked for someone with explosion as well as power. Mike Pruitt answered their description.

There will be at least one heated battle for employment in the offensive line. When Pete Adams suffered a back injury and was unable to play, Bob Jackson, a rookie free agent from Duke, moved into the starting lineup opposite Chuck Hutcherson. Now all three should contend to start.

Doug Dieken, a six-year veteran at tackle, is the team's best offensive lineman. Gerry Sullivan plays opposite him with Barry Darrow in reserve. The last two may be challenged by a group of rookies including Henry Sheppard of Southern Methodist, Doug Kleber of Illinois and Brian Murray of Arizona.

With John DeMarie gone to Seattle in the expansion pool, Tom Deleone, who spent most of his pro career in Cincinnati, has center all to himself.

Much of the Cleveland offense last year came from Don Cockroft, one of the finest place kickers in the NFL. He connected 17 times in 23 attempts. Cockroft's punting average, 40.5, was fourth

JERRY SHERK is regarded as the NFL's premier defensive lineman.

GREG PRUITT was valuable cog in Cleveland's offense during 1975.





DON COCKROFT, left, handles kicking chores while DOUG DIEKEN, center, is standout OT, and linebacker JOHN GARLINGTON returns.

in the AFC.

Defensively, the Browns will regroup around Jerry Sherk, one of the NFL's finest but most unrecognized players.

Sherk's fellow members of the NFL Players' Association last year voted him the best defensive lineman in the league. The big tackle, 28, has several good seasons left.

The Cleveland line has Walter Johnson, another stable veteran, and Sherk at tackles. Mack Mitchell progressed well as a rookie starter at end. Gregg hopes he can come farther in the Bicentennial. At 6-8 and 245 pounds, Mitchell is the ideal pass rusher.

The sticky spot is the other end. Last year it was shared by Ron East, a football gypsy who has been in Dallas, San Diego and the WFL, and Joe Jones, who returned to Cleveland, where he started his career, after Philadelphia let him go. He was cut by Mike McCormack, then the Eagle coach, after going AWOL during the season and concocting a phony alibi. The Browns used him as a spot pass rusher.

The Browns didn't take a single linebacker in the draft. There will be enough competition among the veterans.

The best newcomer is Gerald Irons, acquired in a trade with Oakland. He was good enough to keep Ted Hendricks on the bench last year. Well-seasoned John Garlington also returns off the injured list.

Dick Ambrose moved ahead of Bob Babich as the starting middle linebacker last year. Charlie Hall played an outside spot and

Dave Graf got some work as a rookie.

Probably the biggest blow suffered by the Browns last year was the loss, for the season, of free safety Thom Darden. He was hurt returning a punt in an exhibition game. It's vital for the Cleveland defense that he return in top form. A parade of players were used to replace him.

There are young vets at the other three spots. Clarence Scott holds one corner and sophomore Tony Peters, a rookie prize in

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Cockroft, 72 points on 21 XP, 17 field goals	13th
RUSHING —Pruitt, 217 carries for 1067 yds., 4.9 Avg., 8 TDs	4th
PASSING —Phipps, 162 of 313 attempts for 1749 yds., 4 TDs	14th
RECEIVING —Rucker, 60 receptions for 544 yds., 3 TDs	1st
INTERCEPTIONS —Hall, 2 for 28 yds., 14.0 Avg.	50th
PUNTING —Cockroft, 82 punts, 40.5 Avg., longest 67 yds.	4th
PUNT RETURNS —Pruitt, 13 for 130 yds., 10.0 Avg.	14th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Pruitt, 14 for 302 yds., 21.6 Avg.	13th

Pre-Season Games

July 31	Baltimore at Lincoln, Neb.
Aug. 7	Atlanta at Stillwater, Okl.
16	MINNESOTA (N)
23	AT Philadelphia (N)
30	NEW ENGLAND (N)
Sept. 3	AT Buffalo (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 N.Y. JETS	—
19 AT Pittsburgh	17-31
26 AT Denver	15-16
Oct. 3 CINCINNATI	35-23
10 PITTSBURGH	6-42
17 AT Atlanta	—
24 SAN DIEGO	—
31 AT Cincinnati	17-24
Nov. 7 AT Houston	10-21
14 PHILADELPHIA	—
21 AT Tampa Bay	—
28 MIAMI	—
Dec. 5 HOUSTON	10-40
12 AT Kansas City	40-14

'75, is at the other. Van Green is the strong safety.

The roster includes a bunch of veterans like John Pitts, Neal Craig, Jim Hill, Joe Beauchamp and Ron Bolton, who comes from New England in exchange for Bob McKay, veteran offensive lineman. Luther Philyaw of Loyola of Los Angeles is the only drafted rookie.

BROWNS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs.	College
69	Adams, Pete	G	6-4	260	25	2	So. Calif.
52	Ambrose, Dick	LB	6-0	235	23	2	Virginia
60	Babich, Bob	LB	6-2	231	29	7	Miami (O)
	Bailey, Jim	DT	6-6	255	28	7	Kansas
40	Beauchamp, Joe	CB	6-0	188	32	11	Iowa St.
28	Bolton, Ron	CB	6-2	170	26	5	Norfolk St.
12	Cockroft, Don	K	6-1	195	31	9	Adams St.
49	Craig, Neal	S	6-1	190	28	6	Fisk
16	Cureton, Will	QB	6-3	200	26	3	E. Tex. St.
27	Darden, Thom	S	6-2	193	26	4	Michigan
63	Darrow, Barry	T	6-7	260	26	3	Montana
54	DeLeone, Tom	C	6-2	248	26	5	Ohio St.
61	Dennis, Al	G	6-4	250	25	2	Grambling
73	Dieken, Doug	T	6-5	252	27	6	Illinois
77	East, Ron	DE	6-4	250	33	9	Montana St.
50	Garlington, John	LB	6-1	221	30	9	LSU
55	Graf, Dave	LB	6-2½	215	23	2	Penn St.
21	Green, Van	S	6-1	192	25	4	Shaw
59	Hall, Charlie	LB	6-3½	230	28	6	Houston
88	Holden, Steve	WR	6-0½	194	25	4	Arizona St.
67	Hutchison, Chuck	G	6-3	250	28	6	Ohio St.
36	Hynoski, Henry	RB	6-0	210	23	2	Temple
86	Irons, Gerald	LB	6-2	230	29	7	Mc-E. Shore
68	Jackson, Robert	G	6-5	245	23	2	Duke
71	Johnson, Walter	DT	6-4	265	34	12	Cal. St.-L.A.
65	Johnston, Dave	DT	6-3	245	23	1	Missouri
64	Jones, Joe	DE	6-6	250	28	6	Tenn St.
26	Lefear, Billy	WR	5-11	197	26	5	Henderson St.
37	McKinnis, Hugh	RB	6-0½	219	28	4	Arizona St.
31	Miller, Cleo	RB	5-11	202	24	3	Ark. A.M. & N.
80	Miller, Willie	WR	5-9	172	29	2	Colorado St.
70	Mitchell, Mack	DE	6-7½	245	24	2	Houston
89	Morin, Milt	TE	6-4	240	34	11	Mass.
84	Parris, Gary	TE	6-2	226	26	4	Florida St.
20	Peters, Tony	CB	6-1½	192	23	2	Oklahoma
15	Phipps, Mike	QB	6-3	205	29	7	Purdue
48	Pitts, John	S	6-4	218	31	10	Arizona St.
38	Poole, Larry	RB	6-0½	195	24	2	Kent St.
39	Pritchett, Billy	RB	6-3½	230	25	2	W. Tex. St.
34	Pruitt, Greg	RB	5-10	190	25	4	Oklahoma
81	Roan, Oscar	TE	6-6	214	25	2	SMU
33	Rucker, Reggie	WR	6-2	190	29	7	Boston U.
22	Scott, Clarence	CB	6-0	180	27	6	Kansas St.
72	Sherk, Jerry	DT	6-4½	250	28	7	Oklahoma
17	Sipe, Brian	QB	6-1	190	27	3	S. Diego St.
79	Sullivan, Gerry	T	6-4	250	24	3	Illinois
42	Warfield, Paul	WR	6-0	188	34	12	Ohio St.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Bobrowski, Bob	QB	6-2	205	24	Purdue
Boyes, Jerry	DB	6-0	190	22	Ithaca
Cassidy, Steve	DT	6-3	245	22	La. State
Corbett, Billy	OT	6-5	276	24	J. C. Smith
Craven, Billy	DB	5-10½	190	25	Harvard
Derry, Horace	C	6-3	242	23	SMU
Donley, Patrick	DT	6-4	252	23	Kentucky
Duncan, James	RB	6-0	201	24	SMU
Fleming, Tom	WR	6-0	185	23	Dartmouth
Gardner, Ron	WR	6-2	186	24	Windsor
Harriman, L.	TE	6-4	235	22	Mass.
Jacobs, Norm	RB	6-0	229	24	Cincinnati
Johnson, Sam	LB	6-2	237	24	Arizona St.
Kendrick, P.	LB	6-1½	217	23	Florida
Kleber, Doug	OT	6-2	244	22	Illinois
Logan, Dave	WR	6-4	226	22	Colorado
Lorenzen, Chris	DT	6-3½	252	23	Arizona St.
Luck, Terry	QB	6-2	212	24	Nebraska
Marrelli, Dannie	K	6-0	183	23	Weber St.
Martanovic, R.	LB	6-1	224	23	Kent St.
Martin, Doug	WR	6-2½	185	23	Vanderbilt
Mays, Dave	K-QB	6-1	204	27	Tex. Southern
McDonald, Mike	LB	6-1½	215	23	Catawba
Moore, Arthur	DB	5-10½	183	24	Miss. Valley
Murray, Brian	DT	6-5	259	22	Arizona
Nagel, Craig	QB	6-3	196	22	Purdue
Philyaw, Luther	S	6-0	191	22	Loyola
Pruitt, Mike	RB	6-0	214	22	Purdue
Pulliam, Robert	LB	6-1	235	23	Tennessee
Reed, James	RB	5-11	207	22	Mississippi
Roach, Woodrow	KR	5-8	207	22	Ohio St.
Sheppard, Henry	OT	6-6	236	24	SMU
Smalzer, Joe	TE	6-6	219	23	Illinois
Smith, Lindell	WR	6-0½	175	24	S.E. Okla.
St. Clair, Mike	DE	6-5	245	23	Grambling
Strawderman, A.	LB	6-2½	225	25	E. Carolina
Swick, Gene	QB	6-0½	192	22	Toledo
Wester, Curtis	G	6-3	260	25	E. Tex. St.
Woodside, M.	DE	6-3	240	22	Nebraska

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OAKLAND RAIDERS

PREDICTION 1st

Are the fates stacked up in a goal-line defense against the Oakland Raiders?

It seems that way. John Madden, the Oakland coach, will see this scene in his dreams until his doctage: a Raider receiver, drifting into the end zone as a possible receiver for the winning touchdown. Suddenly a little kid comes out of the crowd of unruly Pittsburgh fan ringing the field at Three Rivers Stadium in the last minutes of the game. The receiver has to dodge the kid, who has fallen in the icy end zone. The ball falls incomplete.

One more play. Cliff Branch catches a 37-yard pass from Ken Stabler on the Steelers' 15-yard line. The Pittsburgh defense swallows him up as the game ends.

One more season ended with a whimper, not a bang for the Raiders, who are getting so paranoid they may have to change their team motto from "Pride and Poise" to "We Can't Win the Big Ones."

"If it had lasted five more seconds, just one more play, we would have won the game," murmured Madden in a Raiders dressing room which has become, by tradition, a tomb after the last game they play.

Tomb-like locker rooms, hang-ups about not winning the big ones, a reputation for not being able to close the sale—that sort of thing shouldn't be the Raider style. After all, they win more consistently than any team in football.

They should waltz through the Western Division of the American Conference again this year.

Denver, the Raiders principal competition for the last few seasons, appears weaker than last year due to a quarterback malfunction. Kansas City is still weeding out antiques from its



CLIFF BRANCH, the glue-fingered receiver, grabbed 51, nine for TDs.

roster. San Diego's rebuilding program is at the kindergarten stage.

Meanwhile the Raiders still possess some of the finest talent in the NFL.

That talent will not be severely tested in 1976. The Raiders have another cushy schedule. After playing Pittsburgh in the opener and Houston in Game 3, the Raiders don't play another winning team until Cincinnati is met on Dec. 6.

Last year the Raiders played only four winning teams in the regular season and split with them. Oakland's secret over the years has been to beat the teams it is expected to beat.

The Raider offense again will center around Ken Stabler, who should just be approaching his prime at age 29. Stabler suffered a painful knee injury early in the season and hobbled through the balance of the year. He wasn't the same player he was in '74, when he won several most-valua-

JOHN MADDEN, Coach.

Assistants: Ollie Spencer, Tom Dahms, Bob Zeman, Don Shinnick, Tom Flores, Joe Scannella.



KEN STABLER, Oakland's QB had knee and interception woes in '75.

ble player awards.

But he still managed to accumulate 2296 yards on his 171 completions. Snake threw for 16 touchdowns and had a 58.4 completion percentage.

The problem was his 24 interceptions. Only Joe Namath threw more. Stabler's 8.2 interception percentage was glaring compared to the 2.3 compiled by Baltimore's young Bert Jones. Two stable knees should help him cut down on the unwanted figures.

The specter of an injured Stabler haunts Madden. The Raiders aren't well protected behind him. Larry Lawrence has some experience, most of it in the Canadian League. Rookie Dave Humm played enough to complete 18 of 38 passes for 246 yards and three touchdowns. He's a lefty, like Stabler. Blanda was still listed as a quarterback last year, but mostly for curiosity's sake. The old geezer made a token appearance and went 1 for 3 and was intercepted.

Al Davis, the managing general partner, made a surprising stab in the draft. He used a second-round pick to select Jeb Blount, a Tulsa quarterback. Most NFL scouts didn't rate him nearly that high.

Fred Biletnikoff, the receiver whom Stabler and all the other Raider quarterbacks, used to go to in the clutch, showed some signs of slowing up last year. Little wonder. He's 33 and a veteran of 11 pro seasons. Still, Fred caught 43 passes for 587 yards.

If Biletnikoff is phased out, the most likely heir is Mike Siani, a onetime starter himself. Siani, a onetime No. 1 draftee, played enough to catch 17 passes for a 17.3-yard per-reception average.

The man who knocked Siani out of the lineup two years ago, blazing-fast Cliff Branch, is still the home run hitter of the passing attack. He led the team with 51 receptions, a 17.5-yard average and nine touchdowns.

There will be a change at tight end. The man who played there the last four seasons, Bob Moore, was sent to Tampa Bay in the expansion pool.

There will be a battle between two admired players for the job. In the middle of last season the Raiders signed Ted Kwalick, the former all-pro from across the bay in San Francisco. Kwalick had defected to the World League and when his contract was breached, Davis outbid several teams for him. Kwalick played a half dozen games in silver and black, but almost exclusively on coverage and special teams. He didn't catch a pass.

The other candidate is Dave Casper, the ex-Notre Dame captain who has filled cameo roles for two years. Casper played enough to catch five passes last season but his bid for Moore's job came in the American Conference playoff in Pittsburgh when he was inserted into the game late in the second half and made three vital catches to put the Raiders back into contention. There never has been a question about his blocking.

Kwalick is 31. Casper 25. Both are about 6-4 and 225.

A wide receiver the Raiders are likely to use more in '76 is speedy

Morris Bradshaw. The onetime Ohio State Buckeye caught only seven passes last year, but four went for touchdowns and his per-catch average was an eye-popping 25.7.

There is general agreement among the Raiders that they need a big, swift game-breaking back, but neither the draft nor the trade mart yielded one.

The most active and successful ball carrier for Oakland last year was 32-year-old Pete Banaszak, who hasn't been a full-time starter in 10 pro seasons. He carried the ball 187 times for 672 yards and 16 touchdowns, which tied O. J. Simpson for the NFL lead in ground scores.

The next highest ground gainer was another reserve, Mark van Eeghen, with 597 yards in 136 trips.

Normally, the starters are workhorse fullback Marv Hubbard and Clarence Davis, a quick halfback who has been nicked often in his career. Davis carried 112 times for 486 yards. Hubbard, who has taken a lot of beatings in his seven seasons carried only 60 times for 294 yards.

Journeyman Jess Phillips, the fifth back, carried more than Hubbard, 63 times for 298 yards. The Raiders lost two young

backs, Harold Hart and Louis Carter, to Tampa Bay. They drafted three, Terry Kunz of Colorado, Rich Jennings of Maryland and Calvin Young of Fresno State.

The Raiders still have one of the finest offensive lines in the NFL.

The strength is in the guards, George Buehler and Gene Uphsaw, and in all-pro tackle Art Shell. Dave Dalby took over competently when center Jim Otto finally retired after 15 seasons to become the team's business manager. The one possible change hinges on the ability of huge Henry Lawrence to beat out rugged John Vella for the tackle post opposite Shell. Lawrence has great skills and he's watched for two years after Oakland made him a first-round draftee. But Vella has beaten off all challengers since he was promoted when Bob Brown was phased out.

One of the major reasons the Raiders have gone so far and no further in the last few years is that its defensive line is not of the highest caliber. Too much trust was put into the comeback ability of Bubba Smith, but now that giant end is gone to Houston and there is no genuine stopper in the bunch.

TONY CLINE, 6-3, 244-pound DE, stops Terry Bradshaw in exhibition game.



Otis Sistrunk is a fine tackle, but not in the Fats Holmes-Jerry Sherk class. Art Thoms played well in '74, not so well last year. End Tony Cline has been hexed by a series of knee injuries. Horace Jones does a good job but can't be classed with the better ends.

The reserves, well-traveled Dave Rowe and Kelvin Korver, aren't the answer. Oakland used its top draft pick, a second-round-er, to gamble on Charles Phil- yaw, a 6-8 defensive end from Texas Southern. Phil- yaw can run, he's big, he's quick. But he never has been the type of foot- ball player his skills say he should be.

Davis may have to make a major trade before the mid-sea- son deadline.

Oakland's linebacking con- tained one of the major puzzles of the 1975 season.

Davis signed Ted Hendricks, the former Baltimore and Green Bay all-pro, as a free agent. The Raiders had to give up their first- round draft pick to Green Bay as balm. Then Hendricks proceeded to ferment on the Oakland bench all season.

While Ted watched, Gerald Irons did the playing. In a star- tling bit of irony, Irons was traded to Cleveland for a sec- ond-round draft choice last spring.

Hendricks finally got to work in the opening playoff against Cincinnati. Madden used him as a rover, a combination defensive end and linebacker in the "Okla- homa" defense. He was sensa- tional. "He earned his pay (\$125,000 per year) in that one game," saluted Paul Brown, whose finale as Bengal coach was ruined by the Mad Stork.

With Irons gone, Hendricks steps into his position—a year late. The other outside backer is quick, rugged Phil Villapiano. The middle man is 6-5, 240- pound Monte Johnson, a good player who might be better suited to the rover job.

For depth, Madden has ex- Saint Willie Hall, Frank Tate, who came in a trade with San Diego, and two rookies, huge Herb McMath of Morningside and Rik Bonness of Nebraska.

Bonness was a star center for the Cornhuskers but the Raiders will switch him.

The big change at corner is young Neil Colzie for Willie Brown. Colzie was victimized in the Pittsburgh playoff, but he should be an eventual star. He also set punt return records last year. Skip Thomas quietly has moved to the front rank of NFL corners. Brown, who will be 36 in December, is still around.

Strong safety George Atkinson will have trouble keeping Charles Phillips on the bench. Jack Tatum keeps impaling people from free safety.

Ray Guy is the best punter in football and also kicks off for the Raiders. The interesting thing will be to see what the Raiders do with the field-goal kicking. They have been accused of allow- ing sentiment to get in the way of objectivity in Blanda's case. He doesn't have a great leg any- more. Rookie Fred Steinfert, Boston College's sidewinder, and Bobby Howfield, the ex-British soccer player who toiled in Den- ver and with the Jets, will chal- lenge him.

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Banaszak, 96 points on 16 TD runs		2nd
RUSHING —Banaszak, 187 carries for 672 yds., 3.6 Avg., 16 TDs		11th
PASSING —Stabler, 171 of 293 at- tempts for 2296 yds., 16 TDs		8th
RECEIVING —Branch, 51 receptions for 893 yds., 9 TDs		5th
INTERCEPTIONS —Thomas, 6 for 86 yds., 14.3 Avg.		6th
PUNTING —Guy, 68 punts, 43.8 Avg., longest 64 yds.		1st
PUNT RETURNS —Colzie, 48 for 655 yds., 13.6 Avg.		2nd
KICKOFF RETURNS —Hart, 17 for 518 yds., 30.5 Avg., 1 TD		1st

Pre-Season Games

July	31	DALLAS (6 pm)
Aug.	7	St. Louis at Phoenix Ariz. (N)
	13	AT New York Jets
	21	LOS ANGELES (6 pm)
	29	AT San Francisco
Sept.	4	SEATTLE (6 pm)

	1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept.	12 PITTSBURGH	—
	20 AT Kansas City (N)	10-42
	26 AT Houston	26-27
Oct.	3 AT New England	—
	10 AT San Diego	6-0
	17 AT Denver	42-17
	24 GREEN BAY	—
	31 DENVER	17-10
Nov.	7 AT Chicago	—
	14 KANSAS CITY	28-20
	21 AT Philadelphia	—
	28 TAMPA BAY	—
Dec.	6 CINCINNATI	10-14
	12 SAN DIEGO	25-0



RAY GUY, football's ace punter booted 68 times and none blocked.

RAIDERS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
43	Atkinson, G.	DB	6-0	185	29	9	M. Brown
40	Banaszak, Pete	RB	6-0	210	32	11	Miami
46	Bankston, W.	TE	6-4	235	29	8	Tulane
25	Biletnikoff, F.	WR	6-1	190	33	12	Florida St.
16	Blanda, G.	QB-K	6-2	215	48	27	Kentucky
81	Bradshaw, M.	WR	6-1	195	23	3	Ohio St.
21	Branch, Cliff	WR	5-11	170	28	5	Colorado
24	Brown, Willie	DB	6-1	210	35	14	Grambling
64	Buehler, George	G	6-3	270	29	8	Stanford
6	Burke, Mike	K	5-10	188	26	3	Miami
87	Casper, Dave	TE	6-4	228	24	3	Notre Dame
84	Cline, Tony	DE	6-3	244	28	7	Miami
20	Colzie, Neal	DB	6-2	205	23	2	Ohio St.
50	Dalby, Dave	C	6-3	250	25	5	UCLA
28	Davis, Clarence	RB	5-10	195	27	6	So. Calif.
8	Guy, Ray	K	6-3	195	26	4	So. Miss.
39	Hall, Willie	LB	6-2	225	26	4	So. Calif.
83	Hendricks, Tom	LB	6-7	220	28	8	Miami
5	Howfield, Bobby	K	5-9	180	39	8	None
44	Hubbard, Marv	RB	6-1	235	30	8	Colgate
11	Humm, David	QB	6-2	184	24	2	Nebraska
58	Johnson, Monte	LB	6-5	240	24	4	Nebraska
82	Jones, Horace	DE	6-4	260	27	6	Louisville
71	Korver, Kelvin	DT	6-6	270	27	4	N'west. (Ia.)
89	Kwalick, Ted	TE	6-4	225	29	8	Penn St.
70	Lawrence, Henry	T	6-4	273	24	3	Fla. A&M
13	Lawrence, Larry	QB	6-1	208	27	3	Iowa
22	McQuay, Leon	RB	5-9	195	26	3	Tampa
79	Medlin, Dan	G	6-4	252	3	3	N.C. State
47	Phillips, Charles	DB	6-2	215	23	2	So. Calif.
35	Phillips, Jess	RB	6-1	208	28	9	Michigan St.
74	Rowe, Dave	DT	6-7	271	31	10	Penn St.
78	Shell, Art	T	6-5	265	29	9	Mid.-E. Shore
49	Siani, Mike	WR	6-2	195	26	5	Villanova
60	Sistrunk, Otis	DT	6-4	273	28	5	None
23	Smith, Charlie	RB	6-0	205	29	9	Utah
85	Smith, Ollie	WR	6-3	200	27	3	Tenn. St.
12	Stabler, Ken	QB	6-3	215	30	7	Alabama
66	Sylvester, S.	C-G	6-4	262	23	3	Notre Dame
59	Tate, F.	LB-DE	6-2	226	23	2	N.C. Cent.
32	Tatum, Jack	DB	5-11	206	27	5	Ohio St.
26	Thomas, Alonzo	DB	6-1	205	26	2	So. Calif.
80	Thomas, Art	DT	6-5	250	29	8	Syracuse
63	Upshaw, Gene	G	6-5	255	31	10	Texas A&I
30	van Eeghen, M.	RB	6-2	225	24	3	Colgate
75	Vella, John	T	6-4	260	26	5	So. Calif.
41	Villapiano, P.	LB	6-2	225	27	2	Bowl. Green

ROOKIES

	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
4	Steinfort, Fred	K	5-11	180	24	Boston Col.
15	Rae, Mike	QB	6-0	190	25	So. Calif.
17	Ayers, Eddie	RB	5-9	184	22	UCLA
18	Blount, Jeb	QB	6-3	200	22	Tulsa
19	Hogan, Doug	DB	6-3	200	22	So. Calif.
27	Dover, Jerome	DB	6-0	185	22	Colo. St.
29	Lewis, Dwight	DB	6-1	180	23	Purdue
31	Tate, Buddy	LB	6-1	175	23	Tulsa
33	Jennings, Rick	RB	5-9	180	23	Maryland
34	Kunz, Terry	RB	6-1	215	23	Colorado
36	Brown, Cedric	DB	6-1	190	22	Kent St.
37	Reinfeldt, Mike	DB	6-2	185	23	Wisc. (Mil.)
38	Young, Calvin	RB	6-1	220	21	Fresno St.
42	Hargrave, Carl	DB	6-1	190	21	Upper Iowa
45	Beasley, Nate	RB	6-2	215	23	Delaware
52	McMath, Herb	LB	6-4	225	21	Morningside
54	Bonness, Rik	LB	6-3	220	22	Nebraska
62	Mikalojczyk, R.	G	6-3	280	26	Tampa
67	Young, Mark	G	6-3	276	22	Wash. St.
72	Crnick, Craig	DE	6-4	233	22	Idaho
73	Leavitt, Richard	T	6-3	275	22	Bowdoin
77	Philyaw, C.	DE	6-8	270	22	Tex. So'ern
86	Chapman, C.	WR	5-10	175	22	East. Mich.

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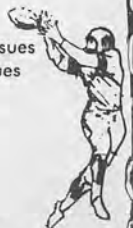
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DENVER BRONCOS

PREDICTION 2nd

The Denver Broncos are a graphic illustration of the fickle nature of the fan. For years, the Broncos were pro football's punching bag. A season containing four victories used to be a triumph in the Rockies.

Then, in 1973, the Broncos experienced their first winning season. In 1974 they won again.

Last year Denver was visited by the familiar, another loser. The Broncos finished 6-8. The fans are grumbling. A lot of them are suggesting that Coach John Ralston may not be a genius after all.

STEVE RAMSEY must keep plugging to hold Denver quarterback spot.



Ralston maintains his usual optimism.

"The bad luck, the bad calls, the unusual rash of injuries have to be behind us," he claims. "With the way our young players came along late in the season, we could start over with a healthy squad and be a championship contender.

"We'll make a real run at the marbles in 1976."

Ralston actually does talk like that. No kidding.

Change a rule, he sees it as beneficial to the Broncos. Release a schedule, and he says it's all in Denver's favor. No cloud is thick enough for him not to perceive a rainbow beyond it.

How he expects to translate a fetish for looking at the sunny side into having a first-rate quarterback materialize in his lineup remains to be seen.

The unhappy fact is that Charley Johnson has shed his uniform. Johnson, the man who steered Denver into respectability for the last several years, retired at the end of the season.

Steve Ramsey, the man who succeeds him, is looked upon as a respectable backup quarterback but no more than that. Ramsey threw for 171 completions, 1562 yards and nine touchdowns last year, but he answers an old NFL description: "Just good enough to get you beat."

What Ralston needs is another Charley Johnson deal. The Houston Oilers gave him Charley in 1972 for a third-round draft choice. But no one seems to want to do something similar this year. So the Broncos are stuck with Ramsey. John Hufnagel isn't much of an alternative.

Denver drafted Craig Penrose, San Diego State's good young quarterback, in the fourth round but that is growth stock. Penrose probably won't be ready until 1978.

With a shaky situation at quarterback, the Broncos need Otis Armstrong to return to

JOHN RALSTON, Coach.

Assistants: Joe Collier, "Doc" Urich, Bob Gambold, Max Coley, Myrel Moore, Kay Dalton, Mike Giddings, Stan Jones.



BOB MAPLES enters twelfth year as reliable center for the Broncos.

health completely. He suffered rib injuries early last season and missed 10 games. The bottom fell out of the Denver attack with him gone and Johnson over the hill.

The backfield changed to Ramsey, Floyd Little who was playing his final season, and hard-blocking fullback Jon Keyworth.

Armstrong led the NFL in ground gaining the season before and the Broncos can't afford to see him out of the lineup. If he can come back to within a reasonable facsimile of his '74 performance, a load will have been lifted from Ramsey.

As it turned out, Keyworth led the Broncos in ground gaining with 725 yards in 182 carries. Most of it was tough yardage, hard-slogging stuff through the middle of the line. Little, characteristically, gave it everything he had left in him for 445 yards in 125 carries, but he didn't have the old zip remaining. His longest run from scrimmage was 19 yards.

Behind them were journeymen Fran Lynch and Oliver Ross.

The Broncos signed Jim Kiick, one of Miami's celebrated defectors to the World Football League. But at this stage of his career, Kiick probably will be



JON KEYWORTH finished 9th in AFC rushing in '75. JIM KLUCK, in WFL action above, joins Broncos for 1976.

helpful only as a spot player.

Three interesting running backs were drafted—power-running Lonnie Perrin of Illinois (he's also a place kicker), Boom Boom Betterson of North Carolina and little Donnie McGraw of Houston.

One of the things the Broncos didn't draft were receivers. This is one of Denver's largest assets.

Riley Odoms, possibly the best all-around tight end in the NFL, caught 40 passes for a 13.6-per catch average. Behind him is Boyd Brown.

Haven Moses, still a slick pattern runner, caught 29 to lead the flock of wide receivers. He averaged 17.4 yards. Ex WFL star Jack Dolbin was a heavy contributor with 22 catches for a 19.1 average and three touchdowns. Rick Upchurch, dangerous whether catching a pass, running a reverse or returning a kick, caught 18 for a 24.2 average which included a 90-yard touchdown play against Buffalo. Bill Van Heusen, caught 15 for 16.4.

The leading receiver was Keyworth, with 42.

Fair Hooker, 49ers wide receiver, was acquired in a trade for tight end Bob Adams and guard Brian Goodman.

Big Tom Glassic, the Virginia guard, was drafted to replace un-

dersized Tommy Lyons in the offensive line. Glassic, 250, would look good opposite guard Paul Howard, 260, since the tackles are 255-pound Marv Montgomery and 280-pound Claudie Minor. Bob Maples, the 33-year-old, 250-pound 11-year vet, is still the center.

Ralston hopes some added size is the answer. The Broncos allowed their quarterbacks to be sacked 47 times last year. Only Kansas City and San Diego were worse in the AFC.

There may be some competition for other than Lyons. Ex Giant Bart Buetow and ex Colt Cornelius Johnson is the other guard on the roster. Stan Rogers begins his second season at tackle. Michigan center Jim Czirr may push Maples.

They'll have a new coach this season. Doc Urich moves over from the defensive line to tutor them.

The defensive line is in for a little change.

For one thing, Paul Smith, an all-pro type before he suffered an achilles heel injury, seems healed well enough to move out to defensive end from tackle. He should be a more valuable pass rusher at end.

Hopefully, Rubin Carter has learned a few new wrinkles since

his rookie year so he can rely on something other than strength and his natural quickness. If he can bother the blockers they won't be able to tie up Lyle Alzado, an accomplished pass rusher, with a lot of double-team maneuvers.

The other end is a solid one, Barney Chavous.

There is some versatility up front, with John Grant available for spot duty. He weighs only 235 but he's very quick off the ball. Ed Smith is a reserve end.

What could throw things into a turmoil is the development of another of the Smith boys, Charlie, whose rookie year was interrupted by injury last season. Charlie was the Broncos' second-round draft choice and performing like an unharnessed assassin when he went down during the exhibition season.

Returning to coach this bunch is Stan Jones, the Bronco defensive line mentor when Rich Jackson, Dave Costa, Pete Duranko and Paul Smith were leading the NFL in sacks. Jones might inspire something extra in the boys.

The linebacking seems settled except for one spot.

Randy Gradishar is the type of middle linebacker people expected him to be when he was

re-arranging rib cages in college for Ohio State. The 233-pounder could develop into the folk hero type mike men that Dick Butkus and Mike Curtis were.

Underrated, undersized (5-11 and 220 pounds) Tom Jackson does valuable things on the outside. The position opposite him will involve the battle. It is between young Bob Swenson, a free agent from California who won some starts late last season, and Joe Rizzo, who licked knee surgery after a bright career at the Merchant Marine Academy to get a late start in the NFL.

Once Louis Wright settled down after an early-season injury, one of the corner back spots was anchored last year. Earlie Thomas, who has kicked around since the Jets unloaded him, filled in for injured Calvin Jones on the other side. Denver needs a healthy Jones.

Bill Thompson was the only solid man at the deep positions, playing strong safety last year. He should be joined by Kurt Knoff, the hard-tackling youngster from Kansas whom the Broncos drafted No. 2.

Behind the starting defensive backs are ex Steelers John Rowser and Charles Beatty, ex Charger Chuck Detwiler, Randy Polt and Clarence Ellis, the ex

RANDY GRADISHAR, going into his third year as tough linebacker.



LYLE ALZADO, 252-pound pass rusher, heads for destruction of passer.

Notre Dame star who missed last season due to injury, a condition which has hexed him as a pro.

Jim Turner had one of his finest seasons as a place kicker, banging home 21 of 28. He's not supposed to be sharp from long distance, but he went 2 for 3 from 50 and beyond at age 34 last year.

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Turner, 86 points on 23 XP, 21 field goals	6th
RUSHING —Keyworth, 182 carries for 725 yds., 4.0 Avg., 3 TDs	9th
PASSING —Ramsey, 128 of 233 attempts for 1562 yds., 9 TDs	9th
RECEIVING —Keyworth, 42 receptions for 314 yds., 7.5 Avg., 1 TD	14th
INTERCEPTIONS —Gradishar, 3 for 77 yds., 25.7 Avg., 1 TD	29th
PUNTING —Van Heusen, 63 punts, 39.9 Avg., longest 64 yds.	5th
PUNT RETURNS —Upchurch, 27 for 312 yds., 11.6 Avg.	4th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Upchurch, 40 for 1084 yds., 27.1 Avg.	3rd

Pre-Season Games

July	31	CHICAGO (N)
Aug.	4	AT San Francisco
	14	AT Dallas (N)
	21	SEATTLE (N)
	28	AT St. Louis (N)
Sept.	5	MINNESOTA (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

Sept.	12	AT Cincinnati	16-17
	19	N.Y. JETS	—
	26	CLEVELAND	16-15
Oct.	3	SAN DIEGO	13-10
	10	AT Houston	—
	17	OAKLAND	17-42
	24	AT Kansas City	13-26
	31	AT Oakland	10-17
Nov.	7	TAMPA BAY	—
	14	AT San Diego	27-17
	21	N.Y. GIANTS	—
	28	AT New England	—
Dec.	5	KANSAS CITY	37-33
		AT Chicago	—

1975 Scores

BRONCOS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
	Anderson, Bob	RB	6-0	208	29	6	Colorado
77	Alzado, Lyle	DE	6-3	252	27	6	Yankton
24	Armstrong, Otis	RB	5-10	196	26	3	Purdue
	Beatty, Charles	S	6-2	199	28		No. Tex. St.
87	Brown, Boyd	TE	6-4	216	24	3	Alcorn A&M
	Caldwell, Jason	WR	6-2	200	25		N.C. Central
68	Carter, Rubin	DT	6-0	256	24	2	Miami
79	Chavous, Barney	DE	6-3	252	25	4	S.C. State
	Detweiler, C.	S	6-0	195	29		Utah St.
82	Dolbin, Jack	WR	5-10	180	28	2	Wake Forest
	Ellis, Clarence	S-CB	6-0	190	26	4	Notre Dame
31	Franckowiak, M.	RB	6-3	220	23	2	Cent. Mich.
53	Gradishar, R.	LB	6-3	233	24	3	Ohio St.
63	Grant, John	DE	6-3	235	26	4	So. Calif.
	Haywood, Alfred	RB	5-11	215	28	2	B-Cookman
	Hooker, Fair	WR	6-1	200	29		Arizona St.
60	Howard, Paul	G	6-3	260	26	4	Brig. Young
16	Hufnagel, John	QB	6-1	194	25	3	Penn. St.
57	Jackson, Tom	LB	5-11	220	25	4	Louisville
26	Jones, Calvin	CB	5-7	169	25	4	Washington
32	Keyworth, Jon	RB	6-3	230	26	3	Colorado
	Klick, Jim	RB	5-11	215	29	8	Wyoming
22	Lynch, Fran	RB	6-1	205	31	10	Hofstra
61	Lyons, Tom	G	6-2	230	28	6	Georgia
50	Maples, Bob	C	6-3	250	34	12	Baylor
56	May, Ray	LB	6-1	230	31	10	So. Calif.
71	Minor, Claudie	T	6-4	280	25	3	S. Diego St.
78	Montgomery, M.	T	6-6	255	28	6	So. Calif.
25	Moses, Haven	WR	6-2	208	30	9	S. Diego St.
66	O'Malley, Jim	LB	6-1	230	25	4	Notre Dame
88	Odums, Riley	TE	6-4	230	26	5	Houston
58	Olsen, Phil	C/DT	6-4	260	28	6	Utah St.
21	Polt, Randy	S	6-3	190	24	3	Stanford
10	Ramsey, Steve	QB	6-2	210	28	7	No. Tex. St.
59	Rizzo, Joe	LB	6-1	220	26	3	Mer.Mar. Ac.
73	Rogers, Stan	T	6-4	256	24	2	Maryland
30	Ross, Oliver	RB	6-0	210	27	4	Ala. A&M
46	Rowser, John	CB	6-1	190	32	10	Michigan
67	Schaukowitz, C.	G	6-2	237	25	2	Penn. St.
75	Smith, Ed	DE	6-5	241	26	3	Colo. Col.
70	Smith, Paul	DT	6-3	256	31	9	New Mexico
51	Swenson, Bob	LB	6-3	220	23	2	California
	Sykes, John	RB/WR	5-11	198	26		Morgan St.
	Traver, John	FB	6-3	227	27		Colorado
45	Thomas, Earlie	CB	6-1	190	31	7	Colo. St.
36	Thompson, Bill	S	6-1	200	30	8	Maryland St.
15	Turner, Jim	K	6-2	205	35	13	Utah St.
80	Upchurch, Rick	WR	5-10	170	24	2	Minnesota
42	Van Heusen, WR/P		6-1	200	30	9	Maryland
	Volk, Rick	S	6-3	195	31	10	Michigan
20	Wright, Louis	CB	6-2	195	23	2	S. Jose St.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Betterson, J.	RB	5-11	198	22	No. Carolina
Cozens, Randy	DE	6-4	235	23	Pittsburgh
Czirr, Jim	C	6-3	241	22	Michigan
Evans, Larry	LB	6-2	217	23	Miss. Col.
Gilliam, Art	DE	6-3½	231	22	Grambling
Classic, Tom	OG	6-3½	254	22	Virginia
Huddleston, J.	LB	6-2½	231	22	Utah
Knoff, Kurt	S	6-2½	188	22	Kansas
Lisko, Jim	LB	6-2	227	24	Arkansas St.
McGraw, Donnie	CB	5-9½	176	23	Houston
Moore, Randy	DT	6-2	241	22	Arizona St.
Penrose, Craig	QB	6-2½	208	23	S. Diego St.
Perrin, Lonnie	RB	6-1	222	24	Illinois
Pittman, Gregg	LB	6-1½	225	22	Iowa St.
Summers, W.	KS	6-4	220	22	Louisville

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TOMMY PROTHRO, Coach.
Assistants: Bill Walsh, Ernie Zampese, Earnel Durden, Rudy Feldman, Bob McKittrick, Howard Mudd, Jackie Simpson.

PREDICTION 3rd

San Diego is one of America's loveliest cities. The weather is as close to perfect as seems possible in the continental U.S. It's hills and lush parks are pleasing to the eye. It's people are friendly and gracious.

There must be a stickler everywhere. In San Diego's case it's the city's professional football franchise, the Chargers.

For the last decade, the Chargers have visited losing teams, bad trades, even drug scandals on this pleasant burg. Last season, when one of the few respites in the schedule was a visit by Joe Namath, that famous citizen got himself suspended from play for the first half of the Charger game for blowing a curfew. The Charger ticket buyers, as usual, were the patsies.

Charger owners always have been Los Angeles men. They seemed to have operated on the theory that what doesn't go in LA, will go in San Diego. Three of the four head coaches in the Chargers' history were previously dismissed by the Rams. Ex Rams

like Deacon Jones were sent out to pasture in San Diego. The current general manager and his assistant were found wanting by the Rams.

San Diego deserves better. Whether it will get it in 1976 is debatable.

San Diego football is in trouble. People have found other things to do in their Coastal paradise.

In the first six games last year, the Chargers were shut out three times. In two of the remaining three they scored 10 points. They lost all six. Who needs that when you can go surfing at Pacific Beach?

The organization is still reeling from the drug scandals which permeated the team just a few seasons ago. Who wants to think about that when you go out to Pt. Loma and watch the whales mope by?

When Harland Svare became general manager of the team five years ago, he tried to emulate George Allen by trading draft choices for veteran players. But where Allen was more selective, Svare dealt for everyone else's

headache, the other guys' antiques. It was "the Future Is Now" gone to hell. The new regime has been trying to repair that with young kids, but who wants to see painful on-the-job training when you could spend Sunday with the Hippopotami at the San Diego Zoo?

The trouble on the field begins at the quarterback position. There is no discernible evidence to outsiders that Dan Fouts can be a viable quarterback in the NFL. The evidence is no more weighted in favor of Jess Freitas, Fouts' backup.

Yet, the Chargers passed quarterbacks in the draft, including Craig Penrose from their own backyard, San Diego State. Coach Johnny Prothro has opted for the improvement route. He thinks Fouts and Freitas can be coached into competence.

To do that job, he hired Bill Walsh off Paul Brown's staff in Cincinnati. Walsh's reputation around the NFL is a good one. It's said he left the Bengals when Brown elected to promote Bill Johnson to head coach when he quit, rather than Walsh.

DON FOUTS, the Charger's No. 1 quarterback, sets up to pass as offensive tackle RUSS WASHINGTON (70) provides solid protection.

GARY GARRISON, averaged 19.5 yards per catch for 1975 Chargers.



What Walsh will attempt to sell to the San Diego players is his philosophy of offense. It doesn't include daymares like those three shutouts early last season.

Walsh went to work on the psychological side of his program as soon as he arrived in town last winter. Fouts was an easily-won disciple.

"Our offense is going to be one of the top five in the American Conference," said Fouts last spring. "That's what Coach Walsh said and I believe him."

That should be news to the defenses which played the Chargers last year, but that's youthful enthusiasm for you. Trouble is, enthusiasm often gets in the way of reality.

On a more tangible level, Fouts has a useful new playmate. He is Joe Washington, the wonderful broken-field runner from Oklahoma. Presumably, the Chargers will use Washington the way they intended to use Johnny Rodgers when they drafted him four years ago—then lost him to the Montreal Alouettes. Which is to say he will catch some passes, be used as a spot runner and return everything anyone kicks to the Chargers.

"He's a home run hitter," says Prothro. "An exciting player who can break up a game."

San Diego can use one of those.

Fouts also will have someone to throw at besides beleaguered Gary Garrison, the veteran who has been blanketed with multiple coverages the last few seasons. The Chargers gave up aged defensive lineman Coy Bacon for one of the league's genuine blazers, wide receiver Charlie Joiner. He caught 37 balls, averaged 19.6 yards a catch and scored 5 touchdowns for Cincinnati last year.

Garrison, despite all the attention, managed a 16.2 average on 27 catches. Dwight McDonald, a possession catcher, was his rookie partner last year and caught 19 for a 15.7 average.

Prothro can make it a track meet by putting one of his rookie blazers, Tennessee State's Larry Dorsey or West Virginia's Artie Owens, in the lineup with Joiner. The bench also includes veteran



JOE WASHINGTON, ex-Oklahoma star, will get plenty of work in his rookie campaign with the Chargers, who can use a game-breaker.

Joe Sweet and two WFLers, Terry Lindsey and John Tuttle. Lindsey was one of the defunct league's stars, catching 43 for the Southern California Sun.

Even with Washington on the roster, the biggest hope for improvement in the running game is the recovery of Don Woods from knee surgery. He was the rookie of the year in '74, rushing for 1162 yards.

With Woods out, the Chargers got a decent year from Ricky Young, who gained 577 yards as a rookie. The fullback is Bo Matthews, once a hope for the future. He could be challenged by ex-Bear Jim Harrison this time. Also around are Sam Scarber, Glen Bonner, Tony Baker and Dave Atkins, all vets, along with Georgia running back Glynn Harrison.

The Chargers have an experienced line, but there is an opening for a guard since Ira Gordon played out his option and then was shipped to Tampa Bay in the expansion draft.

The top men up front are Pro Bowl tackle Russ Washington and guard Doug Wilkerson, voted the team's top linemen for the last two years. Booker Brown, the WFL prodigal, won a tackle job in his first season in the NFL. Center Ed Flanagan starts his 12th season.

The vacancy could be filled by the second-round draftee, Boston College's Don Macek, who played center as a senior. The bench also includes tackles Terry Owens and Billy Shields, guard Ralph Peretta, center-guard Mark Markovich and a newcomer, ex Bill tackle Halvor Hagen.

Charger quarterbacks were sacked 50 times, an indictment of the pass protection.

One of the happier things about '75, was Pat Curran, who languished for six seasons as a Ram sub. He got to play with the Chargers and caught 45 passes, high on the team, for 619 yards. He was voted San Diego's most valuable player.

Ex WFLer Chuck Bradley, a



KEY members of the San Diego defensive unit (l. to r.) are veteran CHRIS FLETCHER, a safety, and second-year men MIKE FULLER safety, tackle LOUIE KELCHER and cornerback MIKE WILLIAMS.

center during his Miami days, is the backup of record but rookie Ron Singleton, a 6-7 mountain out of Grambling, could take his job.

The Chargers drafted three quarters of a defensive line last year. Huge tackle Louie Kelcher turned out to be a stud and his partner, Gary Johnson, showed a lot of promise. End Fred Dean had seven sacks. That part of the line is settled.

There could be a scramble for the fourth position. Frontrunner is John Teerlinck, hurt in '75. Ex Canadian leaguer Bud Magrum, Kevin Nosbusch, Art Riley, Dave Tipton and ex WFLer Chuck DeJurnett and rookie Jeff Perlinger of Michigan will contest it.

There will be wide-open competition for the linebacker position.

For one thing, the Chargers swapped Douglass and other things to New Orleans for Rick Middleton who will push Floyd Rice for the weakside spot. Charles Anthony will come back from the injury list to try and reclaim his old middle job from Tom Graham.

Don Goode must recover from shoulder surgery in the strong side. Mike Dennery, acquired in a trade with Oakland, might figure here. Then there is Larry Keller, down from Canada, returnees Drew Mihalik, and Billy Andrews and three rookies—Oregon State's Bob Horn, Alabama's Woodrow Lowe and Syracuse's Ray Preston.

The '75 draft also provided a pair of starters in the secondary. Mike Williams won a corner back

job and Mike Fuller won the strong safety job by the end of the season. The steadying force back there is Chris Fletcher, who had a half dozen interceptions.

Danny Colbert has the corner spot opposite Williams, but he could get an argument from ex Falcon Tom Hayes. The others include Hal Stringert, rookies Herman Harris of Mississippi Valley and Calvin Lane of Fresno State.

Both the kickers are in jeop-

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Wersching, 56 points on 20 XP, 12 field goals	23rd
RUSHING —Young, 138 carries for 577 yds., 4.2 Avg., 5 TDs	17th
PASSING —Fouts, 106 of 195 attempts for 1396 yds., 2 TDs	12th
RECEIVING —Curran, 45 receptions for 619 yds.	9th
INTERCEPTIONS —Fletcher, 6 for 100 yds., 16.7 Avg.	5th
PUNTING —Partee, 79 punts, 36.8 Avg., longest 56 yds.	12th
PUNT RETURNS —Fuller, 36 for 410 yds., 11.4 Avg., 1 TD	5th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Fuller, 31 for 725 yds., 23.4 Avg.	12th

Pre-Season Games

July 31 PHILADELPHIA (N)
Aug. 6 New England at Norman, Okl.
16 St. Louis at Tokyo
21 San Francisco at Hawaii (N)
29 AT Seattle
Sept. 4 N.Y. GIANTS (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

		1975 Scores
Sept. 12	AT Kansas City	20-28
	19 AT Tampa	—
	26 ST. LOUIS	—
Oct. 3	AT Denver	13-10
	10 OAKLAND	0-6
	17 HOUSTON	33-17
	24 AT Cleveland	—
	31 AT Pittsburgh	0-37
Nov. 7	BALTIMORE	—
	14 DENVER	17-27
	21 AT Buffalo	—
	28 KANSAS CITY	10-12
Dec. 5	SAN FRANCISCO	—
	12 AT Oakland	25-0

ardy. Oklahoma's Tony DiRenzo, the Brazilian who kicked 13 of 19 field goals as a senior, will challenge Ray Wersching. DiRenzo kicked a 56-yarder last year and a 60-yarder his junior season. Ex WFLer Alvin White challenges punter Dennis Partee, who had an off year in '75.

CHARGERS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
51	Andrews, Billy	LB	6-0	220	31	10	S.E. La.
59	Anthony, C.	LB	6-1	230	24	2	USC
26	Atkins, Dave	RB	6-1	208	27	4	El Paso
35	Baker, Tony	RB	5-11	215	31	9	Iowa St.
21	Bonner, Glen	RB	6-2	202	24	3	Washington
88	Bradley, Chuck	TE	6-6	235	26	3	Oregon
65	Brown, Booker	T	6-2	257	23	2	USC
46	Colbert, Danny	CB	5-11	176	24	3	Tulsa
82	Curran, Pat	TE	6-3	238	30	8	Lakeland
71	Dean, Fred	DE	6-3	226	24	2	La. Tech
55	Dennery, Mike	LB	6-0	222	25	3	So. Miss.
54	Flanagan, Ed	C	6-3	245	32	12	Purdue
44	Fletcher, Chris	S	5-11	189	27	7	Temple
14	Fouts, Dan	QB	6-3	204	25	4	Oregon
17	Freitas, Jesse	QB	6-1	192	24	3	S. Diego St.
42	Fuller, Mike	S	5-9	195	23	2	Auburn
27	Garrison, Gary	WR	6-1	194	32	11	S. Diego St.
50	Goode, Don	LB	6-2	225	25	3	Kansas
58	Graham, Tom	LB	6-2	235	26	5	Oregon
79	Hagen, Halvor	T	6-6	253	29	8	Weber St.
37	Harrison, Jim	RB	6-4	238	26	5	Missouri
22	Hayes, Tom	CB	6-1	195	30	6	S. Diego St.
72	Johnson, Gary	DT	6-2	262	24	2	Grambling
18	Joiner, Charlie	WR	5-11	188	28	8	Grambling
74	Kelcher, Louie	DT	6-5	282	23	2	SMU
89	McDonald, D.	WR	6-2	187	25	2	S. Diego St.
53	Mahalic, Drew	LB	6-4	225	23	2	Notre Dame
56	Markovich, Mark	C	6-5	256	23	3	Penn St.
41	Matthews, Bo	RB	6-4	230	24	3	Colorado
52	Middleton, Rick	LB	6-2	228	24	3	Ohio St.
76	Owens, Terry	T	6-6	260	32	11	Jacksonville
29	Partee, Dennis	P	6-1	209	30	9	SMU
61	Perretta, Ralph	G	6-2	252	23	2	Purdue
57	Rice, Floyd	LB	6-3	225	27	6	Alcorn A&M
30	Scarber, Sam	RB	6-2	232	28	2	New Mexico
66	Shields, Billy	T	6-7	260	23	2	Ga. Tech.
45	Stringert, Hal	CB	5-11	185	24	2	Hawaii
	Sullivan, Joe	T	6-4	250	24	1	Boston Col.
83	Sweet, Joe	WR	6-2	196	28	5	Tenn. St.
77	Teerlinck, John	DE	6-5	245	25	3	West. Ill.
78	Tipton, Dave	DT	6-1	255	22	2	West. Ill.
25	Tyler, Maurice	S	6-0	191	26	5	Morgan St.
70	Washington, Russ	T	6-7	285	30	9	Missouri
15	Wersching, Ray	K	5-10	222	26	4	California
63	Wilkerson, Doug	G	6-3	262	29	7	N.C. Central
20	Williams, Mike	CB	5-10	181	22	2	LSU
33	Woods, Don	RB	6-1	210	25	3	New Mexico
34	Young, Rickey	RB	6-2	193	22	2	Jackson St.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Washington, Joe	RB	5-10	184	22	Oklahoma
Macek, Don	G	6-3	253	21	Boston Col.
Dorsey, Larry	WR	6-1	184	22	Tenn. St.
Horn, Bob	LB	6-3	238	22	Oregon St.
Singleton, Ron	TE	6-7	245	23	Grambling
Owens, Artie	WR	5-10	170	23	West Va.
Lowe, Woodrow	LB	6-0	211	21	Alabama
Lane, Calvin	DB	5-10 1/2	175	21	Fresno St.
DiRenzo, Tony	K	5-10	187	21	Oklahoma
Harrison, Glynn	RB	5-11	190	21	Georgia
Perlinger, Jeff	DT	6-3	250	22	Michigan
Preston, Ray	LB	6-0	219	22	Syracuse
Lee, Ron	DB	6-4	195	23	Oregon
Harris, H.	DB	6-3	195	22	Miss. Valley
Lee, John	DT	6-1	248	23	Nebraska
Jones, Ed	G	6-3	245	22	Cincinnati
Hoffman, Jack	DT	6-4	245	21	Indiana
Harrison, Jack	G	6-2 1/2	255	22	California
Sanders, C.	LB	6-4	224	23	Cincinnati

FREE AGENTS AND INJURED RESERVE

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Bachmann, Tony	G	6-2	242	24	S. Diego St.
DeJurnett, C.	DL	6-4	265	24	S. Jose St.
Grady, Kevin	G	6-1	250	27	Oklahoma
Keller, Larry	LB	6-2	225	23	Houston
Lindsey, Terry	WR	6-0	190	24	Fullerton
Magrum, Bud	DE	6-4	250	27	Colorado
Matthews, R.	PK	5-10	200	24	N. Tex. St.
Nosbusch, Kevin	DT	6-4	265	23	Notre Dame
Riley, Arthur	DE	6-4	260	23	USC
Robinson, Steve	DL	6-4	255	23	Tuskegee
Sark, Earl	P-PK	6-2	190	24	N. Mex. St.
Sixkiller, Sonny	QB	5-11	195	25	Washington
Snow, Eddie	RB	6-0	195	26	Texas So'ern
Sullivan, Joe	G	6-4	250	24	Boston Col.
True, Mitchell	FB	5-10	215	25	Pacific
Tuttle, John	WR	6-1	190	24	Kansas St.
White, Alvin	P-QB	6-3	220	23	Oregon St.
Williams, Skip	DE	6-3	245	24	Imperial Val.



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KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

PREDICTION 4th

Paul Wiggin's debut as a head coach in the National Football League would have been a spectacular success—if someone had lopped the month of December off the Kansas City Chiefs' schedule.

Going into that last month, Wiggins had the Chiefs:

1. Playing .500 football with a 5-5 won-lost record.

2. Winning big games. The Chiefs were buried in the first quarter by Howard Cosell on a Monday night extravaganza, but in the end they were resurrected and upset Dallas, 34-31, on their own. They also upset Oakland, 42-10, which, in KC, is like cornering the soybean future market.

3. Winning in their division. The Chiefs were 3-1 against their foes in the AFC West.

4. Winning in the clutch. They beat Detroit, 24-21, on Jan Stenerud's overtime field goal just before the holocaust.

When the holocaust came, it brought disillusionment to the

enthusiastic young coach.

Baltimore started it, 28-14, but the Colts were beating everyone at that time. But in the next game San Diego—hapless, disorganized San Diego—won in the Chiefs' own ballyard, Arrowhead Stadium. Then there was a 40-14 loss to another hapless outfit, the Cleveland Browns, before Oakland closed the season on a merciful, 28-20 note.

Wiggins' big problem in '75—and probably will be in '76—was that you can't do everything at once. There were so many things which had to be changed on the Chiefs, that one or two seasons isn't enough time to accomplish all the chores.

If Wiggin used his freshman year as head coach as a watershed season, it appears to have worked.

He found out there were a lot of older players he just couldn't count on anymore. He found out something about his kids. And he should have learned what his priority areas of improvement should be.

The quarterback situation crystalized a bit when Lenny Dawson retired as a quarterback after 19 seasons to become a commentator for NBC.

The question now is whether the Chiefs are going to go anywhere with 30-year old Mike Livingston at quarterback.

The Chiefs have been predicting big things for Livingston since the Johnson administration, but they are starting to sound just like the things said about Pete Beathard, another KC quarterback who never made it big.

Livingston's 88 completions gained 1245 yards and scored eight touchdowns. He can still run, too.

But young Tony Adams, the 1974 most valuable player in the World League, had a 245-yard day (18 completions in 31 attempts) against Oakland in the finale. He's unpolished, but Wig-

PAUL WIGGIN, Coach.

Assistants: Chet Franklin, Joe Spencer, Bob Schnelker, Vince Costello, Tom Pratt, Tom Bettis, Steve Ortmyer.

gins may find he has a better future with Tony.

With a plague of injuries changing the makeup of the offensive line so often, it was a struggle to carry the ball for the Chiefs in '75. Woody Green managed 611 yards in 167 carries, a 3.7-yard average, with five touchdowns. Given the proper support, Green could explode among the NFL stars soon. He has an awful lot of talent.

MacArthur Lane, the veteran fullback, was acquired from Green Bay to provide power and blocking for Woody. He was doing a good job, too, until injury struck him last summer. He played in only nine games but gained 311 yards on 79 carries.

Veteran Ed Podolak was the most active ball carrier, next to Green. He gained 351 yards in 102 carries. Jeff Kinney, another fullback, gained 304 in 85 trips.

A plague of injuries wiped out almost the entire guard corps, so KC's first pick in the college draft was Iowa guard Ron Walters, a big guy who should step right into the line up.

The senior guards are 35-year-old Ed Budde and 31-year old

WOODY GREEN piled up 611 yards for Kansas City during '75 campaign.

JIM LYNCH, 10-year veteran, is member of aging linebacking crew.



Randy Beisler. But Budde missed all but one game due to injury last year and Beisler missed all but three games after he came from San Francisco in a trade.

Tom Condon, who played nine games last year, has the best chance to pair with Walters. Also on the roster are ex Jet Roger Bernhardt, ex Colt Gerry Palmer and ex Bengal Mike Wilson. Rocky Rasley went to Seattle in the expansion draft.

Tackle is more stable position. Charlie Getty and Jim Nicholson start their third seasons there. Matt Herkenhoff and Bill Story are behind them. Herkenhoff's debut with the Chiefs was delayed by his signing with the WFL two years ago and then his injury last year. He sat out for the entire season. Calvin Harper of Illinois State and Rick Thurman of Texas were drafted.

Best of the forwards is Jack Rudnay, beginning his seventh season at center. Charlie Ane backed him up last year and now Orrin Olsen of Brigham Young will keep them company.

Whoever plays quarterback will not be endowed with the slickest receiver corps in the league.

When Dawson was in the lineup, he relied heavily upon his backs as receivers. Podolak caught 37 balls and Lane 25. The leading wide receiver was Barry Pearson, the Pittsburgh castoff, who caught 36 for 608 yards and a 16.9-yard average. Next on the wide receiver list was Larry Brunson with 23 receptions for 398 yards, a 17.3 average.

Reggie Craig played some last year and Henry Marshall, a possession receiver from the University of Missouri, was drafted in the third round.

But the answer could be to move Walter White, a speedy kid from Maryland, to the outside. White, picked up as a relief tight end after Pittsburgh cut him as a rookie, broke up a couple of games, catching 23 passes for a 24.3 average. Billy Masters, the well-traveled veteran, could play regularly if White is moved.

Kansas City's biggest chances could come in the defensive line.

Buck Buchanan moved to New Orleans as a member of Hank



MIKE LIVINGSTON, Chief's quarterback, is pressured by Houston's STEVE KINER (MLB) and TODDY SMITH (DE) in 1975 NFL contest.

Stram's coaching staff. Marvin Upshaw was traded to St. Louis, along with safety Mike Sensibaugh, for safety Tim Gray.

The second and third draft choices were defensive linemen, UCLA's Cliff Frazier and Minnesota's Keith Simons. In the fifth round the Chiefs took another big prospect, Willie "Foots" Lee of Bethune-Cookman.

Frazier stands 6-6 and weighs 260 pounds. He took a rap for inconsistency early in his Bruin career, but when UCLA overcame USC and then Ohio State in the Rose Bowl he was a quick load neither team could handle as the nose guard in Dick Vermeil's defense. If he can't start somewhere in the Kansas City line, Wiggin will be disappointed.

Simons is another superior athlete who played strong football in a strong league. He, too, should

find immediate work with the Chiefs.

Already in the lineup are two experienced players with immense potential, the greatest part of it unfulfilled. Wilbur Young has shone occasionally, but this 6-6, 285-pound giant often seems content with journeyman's work. John Matuszak hasn't even played like a journeyman often enough to keep KC from being ridiculed for the deal it made with Houston to get him. The Chiefs sent Curley Culp to the Oilers for the one-time first pick in the NFL draft and all Culp did is made the Houston defense which, in turn, has made the team a winner.

This is the fourth pro season for the 6-8, 275-pound Matuszak and so far he's better known for action off the field than on it.

There are five other defensive



Kansas City's kicking game is really solid with JAN STENERUD (left) and JERREL WILSON; WILBUR YOUNG (right) handles defensive end.

linemen on the veteran roster. Tom Keating, the ex Raider, was signed for an emergency role. At 34, he doesn't fit into Wiggin's future plans. Lawrence Estes once started for the Saints. Bob Maddox had some moments with Cincinnati. John Lohmeyer was active for a half dozen games and Louis Ross, who played in the WFL and the Canadian League after a couple years with Buffalo, was active for one.

Jim Wolf was signed as a free agent. He was last active with Pittsburgh in '74. Dave Wasick, a '74 draftee, was hurt all last year and his true position may be linebacker.

The Chiefs need all the help they can get at linebacker. All three starters are over 30.

Willie Lanier was talked out of retirement last year but he wasn't the same Sugar Bear. He's 31. Jim Lynch is the same age. Ken Avery is 32. Ex Bengal Bill Peterson is available but he's 31.

Wiggin would like to count on Clyde Werner but he's been hurt most of his half dozen pro seasons. Last year he was physically unable to perform.

KC took a stab at Jimbo Elrod, Oklahoma's good defensive end, in the fifth round with the idea of making him a linebacker. Further down the list they drafted Northern Illinois' Bob Gregolunas and New Hampshire's Dave Rozumek.

The situation is about the same at corner back.

Emmitt Thomas, the old pass stealer, has slipped a lot at 33. Jim Marsalis is 31. Hise Austin, a

star in the WFL, gets another chance here. Kerry Reardon is still around, but he's never been able to seize an opportunity.

Gray walks into the free safety assignment. He was the Cardinals' first-round draftee a year ago. The strong safety may be Don Martin the ex Yale star. Incumbent Jim Kearney went to Tampa Bay.

A third-round pick was used to take Gary Barbara, a big safety

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Stenerud, 96 points on 30 XP, 22 field goals	3rd
RUSHING —Green, 167 carries for 611 yds., 3.7 Avg., 5 TDs	14th
PASSING —Dawson, 93 of 140 attempts for 1095 yds., 5 TDs	2nd
RECEIVING —Podolak, 37 receptions for 332 yds., 2 TDs	22nd
INTERCEPTIONS —Thomas, 6 for 119 yds., 19.8 Avg.	4th
PUNTING —Wilson, 54 punts, 41.4 Avg., longest 64 yds.	3rd
PUNT RETURNS —Podolak, 13 for 96 yds., 7.4 Avg.	15th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Thomas, 22 for 516 yds., 23.5 Avg.	11th

Pre-Season Games

Aug.	2 HOUSTON (N)
	7 MINNESOTA (N)
	15 AT San Francisco
	21 WASHINGTON (N)
	28 DETROIT (N)
Sept.	3 AT St. Louis (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

Sept.	12 SAN DIEGO	20-28
	20 OAKLAND (N)	42-10
	26 NEW ORLEANS	—
Oct.	3 AT Buffalo	—
	10 AT Washington	—
	17 AT Miami	—
	24 DENVER	26-13
	31 AT Tampa Bay	—
Nov.	7 PITTSBURGH	3-28
	14 AT Oakland	20-28
	21 CINCINNATI	—
	28 AT San Diego	12-10
Dec.	5 AT Denver	33-37
	12 CLEVELAND	14-40

out of Nicholls State. He's a dark-horse. Also drafted were Steve Taylor of Kansas, swift Tim Collier of East Texas and Dennis Anderson of Arizona, who also is a punter.

Jan Stenerud had one of his finest seasons in years, kicking 22 of 32 field goals. He tried more-long-distance kicks than any man in the AFC. Jerrel Wilson was injured, but still finished third in the AFC with a 41.4-yard punting average.

CHIEFS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
11	Adams, Tony	QB	6-0	198	26	2	Utah St.
56	Ane, Charlie	C	6-1	233	24	2	Michigan St.
21	Austin, Hise	CB	6-4	187	26	3	Pr. View
53	Avery, Ken	LB	6-1	227	32	10	So. Miss.
64	Beisler, Randy	G	6-5	244	32	11	Indiana
68	Bernhardt, R.	G	6-4	244	27	3	Kansas
83	Brunson, Larry	WR	5-11	180	27	3	Colorado
71	Budde, Ed	G	6-5	265	36	14	Michigan St.
65	Condon, Tom	G	6-3	240	24	3	Boston Col.
80	Craig, Reggie	WR	6-0	187	23	2	Arkansas
41	Dressler, Doug	RB	6-2	225	28	7	Chico State
	Estes, L.	DE-OT	6-6	250	30	5	Alcorn A&M
77	Getty, Charlie	T	6-4	260	24	3	Penn St.
	Gray, Tim	S	6-1	200	24	2	Texas A&M
27	Green, Woody	RB	6-1	205	25	3	Arizona St.
60	Herkenhoff, M.	T	6-4	255	25	1	Minnesota
50	Kearney, Tim	LB	6-2	229	26	5	No. Mich.
31	Kinney, Jeff	RB	6-2	215	27	5	Nebraska
42	Lane, MacArthur	RB	6-1	220	34	9	Utah St.
63	Lanier, Willie	LB	6-1	245	31	10	Morgan St.
10	Livingston, M.	QB	6-4	212	31	9	S. Me. U.
87	Lohmeyer, John	DE	6-4	229	25	3	Emporia
51	Lynch, Jim	LB	6-1	225	31	10	Notre Dame
75	Maddox, Bob	DT-DE	6-5	249	27	3	Frostburg
40	Marsalis, Jim	CB	5-11	190	31	8	Tenn. State
47	Martin, Don	CB-S	5-11	185	27	4	Yale
84	Masters, Billy	TE	6-5	240	32	10	La. State
79	Matuszak, John	DE	6-8	275	26	4	Tampa
	McBee, Ike	WR	5-11	175	23	1	S. Jose St.
	McCann, Jim	P	6-2	163	27	5	Arizona St.
70	Nicholson, Jim	T	6-6	261	26	3	Mich. St.
7	Nott, Mike	QB	6-3	203	24	1	Santa Clara
85	Pearson, Barry	WR	5-11	185	26	5	No. western
55	Peterson, Bill	LB	6-2	225	31	7	S. Jose St.
14	Podolak, Ed	RB	6-1	205	29	8	Iowa
15	Reardon, K.	S-CB	5-11	180	27	6	Iowa
58	Rudnay, Jack	C	6-3	240	29	7	No. western
3	Stenerud, Jan	K	6-2	187	33	10	Montana St.
62	Story, Bill	G/T	6-3	245	25	3	So. Illinois
89	Taylor, Otis	WR	6-3	215	34	12	Pr. View
18	Thomas, Emmitt	CB	6-2	192	33	11	Bishop
	Wasick, Dave	DE	6-3	220	23	1	S. Jose St.
54	Werner, Clyde	LB	6-3	230	29	6	Washington
88	White, Walter	TE	6-3	218	25	2	Maryland
44	Wilson, Jerrel	P	6-2	222	35	14	So. Miss.
67	Wilson, Mike	G	6-1	250	29	3	Dayton
	Wolf, James	DE	6-3	250	24	2	Pr. View
99	Young, Wilbur	DE	6-6	285	27	6	Wm. Penn

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Anderson, D.	S-P	6-0	190	23	Arizona
Barbaro, Gary	S	6-3½	198	22	Nickolls
Bruner, Joe	QB	6-4	211	23	N.E. La.
Collier, Tim	CB	5-11½	166	22	East Texas
Elrod, Jimbo	LB	6-0	209	22	Oklahoma
Foster, W.*	LB	6-0	234	22	Baylor
Frazier, Cliff	DT	6-4	256	24	UCLA
Greene, Carlos*	RB	5-9	211	23	Central Mo.
Gregolunas, B.	LB	6-0½	214	22	No. Illinois
Harper, Calvin	T	6-5½	278	24	Illinois St.
Jackson, Mitzi*	RB	5-10½	188	23	Auburn
Jennings, J.J.	RB	6-1	220	24	Rutgers
Lee, Willie	DT	6-4½	249	26	B.-Cookman
Marshall, Henry	WR	6-2	205	22	Missouri
McNeill, Pat	RB	5-9	208	22	Baylor
Olsen, Orrin	C	6-1	245	23	Brig. Young
Paul, Whitney	DE	6-3	220	23	Colorado
Porter, Harold	WR	6-0½	182	24	S.W. La.
Rozumek, Dave	LB	6-1½	212	22	N. Hampshire
Simons, Keith	DT	6-3	254	22	Minnesota
Smith, Garry*	G	6-2½	243	24	N. Tex. St.
Spain, Rick*	LB	6-2	228	22	Illinois St.
Squires, Bob	TE	6-4	230	23	Hastings
Taylor, Steve	CB	6-3	204	23	Kansas
Thurman, Rick	T	6-4	244	24	Texas
Walters, Rod	G	6-3	258	22	Iowa
Wellington, Rod	RB	5-11½	206	22	Iowa Mo.
Wilson, Walter*	CB	5-9	167	26	Mo. West.
Young, Lynn*	LB	6-3	217	23	Henderson

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12 PITTSBURGH 12													4
TERRY BRADSHAW													
Position: QB (4)													
RPG: 2													
S	M	L	X	R	P	O	D						
3	1	21	22	4	7	3							3
4	15	1	20	6	21	10							4
5	3	20	21	27	8	22	16						5
6	16	14	44	5	10	22	20						6
7	5	8	16	14	22	22							7
8	X	10	7	24	14	23	23						8
9	20	X	X	22	16	23	24						9
10	8	16	X	25	18	23	25						10
11	15	21	20	24	20	24	25						11
12	X	X	X	26	22	24	26						12
13	9	15	21	19	24	25	26						13
14	10	X	10	26	26	25	26						14
15	17	6	15	27	27	25	26						15
16	12	20	30	8	28	25	18						16
17	18	30	20	3	29	21	13						17
18	30	21	22	28	30	7	34						18

COMPONENTS OF TSG I

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- Specially designed roster sheets
- Game summary sheets
- Team roster sheet
- Football field or yardage sheets
- Set of handy rule cards
- All 26 NFL teams on 1975 records - 988 players on top quality player cards
- 9 offensive play cards: plunge, off tackle, end run, draw, screen, quick toss, circle, zig out, fly
- 10 defensive sets: short yardage, all purpose, MG keys on back, pass rush, FS double covers end, blitz MG, blitz FS, blitz all LB, tight coverage, pass prevent

* These Teams of the Past:

1970 Baltimore	1972 Miami	1974 Minnesota	1974 Buffalo
1971 Dallas	1972 Washington	1974 Oakland	1974 Pittsburgh

TSG I: PRO FOOTBALL SIMULATES NFL FOOTBALL EXACTLY!!!

Programmed into the 988 player ratings is the data necessary for the players to reproduce exactly, within the limits of probability, their performances during the just completed NFL season. This can be done by playing the same schedule and duplicating the frequency of use of each player. That's where the fun comes in! By forming leagues, making trades, running outside more, calling more screens and draws, calling defensive sets flawlessly, any variation in strategy, you will affect the results. Perhaps you can guide your favorite team to the Super Bowl. One word of caution....poor coaching can hurt your team just as good coaching can help it. This game will challenge your football knowledge to the utmost. It's up to you as the coach to get the most out of your players.

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As offensive coach, you have a variety of plays to choose from. On the ground you can run the power play up the middle, run off tackle, sweep the ends, and call the unsuspecting draw play. Through the air you have choices of the slant-in, square-out, post, and flag pass plays. You also have those pass and run plays to choose from. You may select a flair or screen pass to the running backs, and quick-in and quick-out patterns to your wide receivers or tight end. Not only can you call these conventional offensive plays, but you also have the choice of calling end arounds and option passes.

Terry Bradshaw - QB

Q-D	S	L	Run
3 X	1	15	-5yds
4 X	RUSH, F	RUSH	16yds, 0
5 P	15	13	-5yds
6 C	RUN	RUN	21yds
7 C	4, P	19	8yds, 0
8 C	6	RUSH	3yds
9 I	8	16	-1yd
10 C	11	9	7yds
11 C	10	12	2yds
12 C	13	5	0yds, 0
13 I	RUSH	14, P	8yds, 0
14 C	20	RUN	-2yds
15 I	RUN	RUSH	16yds, 0
16 C	RUSH	20	-5yds
17 C, P	17	(a)	21yds
18 X	RUSH	17	8yds, 0

Passer - 180 Att.

Q-D	S	L	Run
3 X	1	15	-5yds
4 X	RUSH, F	RUSH	16yds, 0
5 P	15	13	-5yds
6 C	RUN	RUN	21yds
7 C	4, P	19	8yds, 0
8 C	6	RUSH	3yds
9 I	8	16	-1yd
10 C	11	9	7yds
11 C	10	12	2yds
12 C	13	5	0yds, 0
13 I	RUSH	14, P	8yds, 0
14 C	20	RUN	-2yds
15 I	RUN	RUSH	16yds, 0
16 C	RUSH	20	-5yds
17 C, P	17	(a)	21yds
18 X	RUSH	17	8yds, 0

Scale reproduction of Terry Bradshaw's card from the Pittsburgh team board of the 1974 edition of T.H.E. Note that approximately half of the play results are displayed on the card, giving a flowing quality to the play of the game.

Greatly reduced section of a team chart showing how the individual cards are arranged on the charts.

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1958 Baltimore	1972 Miami	1973 Miami	1974 Minnesota
1962 Green Bay	1972 Washington	1973 Los Angeles	1974 Pittsburgh

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TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

PREDICTION 5th

John McKay's outlook on football life was illustrated graphically in the final game of the 1964 collegiate season.

McKay's Southern California team was playing Notre Dame, which had gone undefeated and ranked No. 1 in the nation as Ara Parsaghatian was finishing his first year as head coach of the Irish. John Huarte, who won the Heisman Trophy that season, passed the ball all over the Memorial Coliseum Field to Jack Snow in the first half while the huge Irish defense stymied the Trojans for a 17-0 lead.

When the crestfallen Southern California players trudged into the locker room, McKay was cheerfully matter-of-fact.

"If we take the second-half kickoff and drive for a touchdown you have a good chance to win," said McKay. "If you don't, we'll probably get killed."

The Trojans did drive for a touchdown. They did hold Notre Dame. They did win, 20-17, in one of the biggest upsets in college football history.

"Even if we had been killed," McKay kidded later, "There are 200 million Chinamen who never would have heard about it."

That kind of philosophy provides McKay with ideal preparation for his first season as coach of a pro expansion team.

McKay's Buccaneers are looking to 1980, rather than 1976. The NFL was no more generous to Tampa and Seattle than it had been to previous expansion teams like Miami, New Orleans, Cincinnati, Dallas and Minnesota.

The best the Bucks got out of the expansion pool was the nucleus of a journeyman offensive line and two promising young running backs from Oakland, which adds up to a possible running game.

The college draft produced the nucleus of a defensive line.

The trade market produced a caretaker quarterback.

"It would be a mistake to try and win too fast," says McKay. "I don't want to do everything for a victory or two when the principal idea is to build a football team."

There is small danger of the Buccaneers winning too soon.

McKay's first steps probably will be to construct a running game. That was his *modus operandi* at Southern California, but he had runners like O. J. Simpson, Mike Garrett, Anthony Davis and Ricky Bell at Troy. A running game is also the safe way for a building football team. Too many interceptions and easy touchdowns for the opposition can cause morale damage which might take years to undo.

If McKay and his line coach Jerry Frei, former head coach at Oregon, wanted to rely strictly on veterans for their line, they could line up something like this:

Center—John Ward, a onetime first-round draftee for the Minnesota Vikings who started as a defensive tackle and also has played guard; or Dan Ryczek, who played mostly on special teams for Washington; or Dave Thompson, another high draft choice by Detroit who did most of his playing in New Orleans as a guard, tackle and center.

Guards—Howard Fest, a messenger guard for Paul Brown at Cincinnati, he also played tackle and center; Ira Gordon, a starter at San Diego; Larry Gagner, a 32-year-old former Steeler who was never the same after an auto accident several years ago.

Tackles—Mike Current, a starter most of his nine years in Denver; Dave Reavis, an untried reserve in Pittsburgh or Thompson.

Tight end—Bob Moore, who started for Oakland the last several years and may be among the best three or four players in the expansion draft; or Fred Pagac, a

JOHN McKay, Coach.

Assistants: John Rauch, Jerry Frei, Phil Krueger, Willie Brown, Abe Gibrion, Dick Voris, Wayne Fontes, Dennis Fryzel, Harry Smith.



JOHN MCKAY, used to winning in college, guides new Tampa Bay club.

starter for the Bears two years ago.

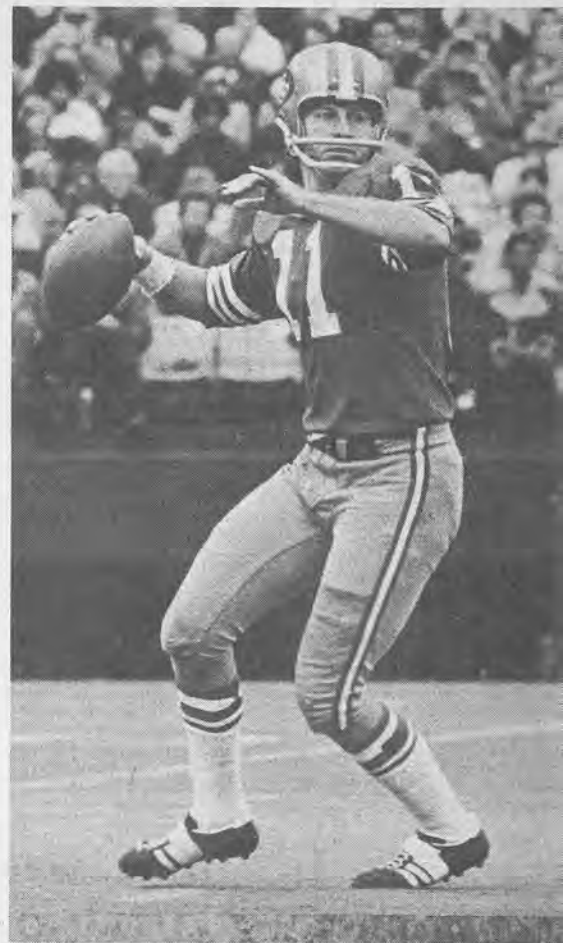
If McKay and Frei want to inject some youth, they can lean on Steve Young, the 6-8 tackle they drafted in the third round out of Colorado, or guards Charles Little of Houston and Bruce Weich of Texas A & M.

The two running backs the Bucs got from Oakland are Harold Hart and Louis Carter. Hart carried the ball 56 times for the Raiders last year and gained 173 yards, scoring three touchdowns. Carter carried only 11 times as a rookie for 27 yards.

Both have enormous potential, however.

The fullback should be Jimmy DuBose, the second-round draftee from Florida U. He's a blocker, who is a prerequisite in McKay's running attacks.

Other backs with pro experience include Morris LaGrand, who was with Kansas City and New Orleans last year as a rookie after a college career at Tampa U.; Vince Kendrick of Atlanta and Manfred Moore of San Francisco. George Ragsdale was



LEROY (left) and DEWEY SELMON, brothers from Oklahoma, give the new Tampa Bay club some good muscle on the defensive line for 1976.

STEVE SPURRIER, ex-49er, will call the signals for the Buccaneers.

drafted out of South Carolina Central.

The caretaker quarterback is Steve Spurrier, acquired from San Francisco in exchange for a second-round draft choice plus ex Miami linebacker Bruce Elia and ex Ram wide receiver Willie McGee.

Spurrier, a college legend in Florida after winning the Heisman Trophy as a Gator, never made it with the 49ers, even though he got several chances to start. But Buccaneer fans remember another 49er castoff who went to New Orleans in the expansion draft and later developed into an NFL star—Billy Kilmer.

Spurrier's tutor in Tampa will be John Rauch, the ex Oakland and Buffalo head coach, whom McKay hired as his offensive coordinator. Rauch developed Daryle Lamonia for the Raiders and had a hand in Steve Bartkowski's brilliant rookie year in Atlanta.

The Bucs also signed ex Viking and Lion Bill Cappleman, a for-

mer star at Florida State, and James Foote, who showed a little promise while with Houston. The draft brought Jack Berry from Washington & Lee and Parnell Dickinson from Mississippi Valley. Both are good athletes who might play other positions.

What the team needs more of is wide receivers.

Barry Smith, onetime Florida State All-America drafted by Green Bay in the first round, was acquired in the expansion pool. So was little Lawrence Williams, an ex Chief.

McKay drafted his son, J.K., but he may pass up pro ball to stay in college coaching at Oregon State.

The free agent market yielded ex Bear Wayne Wheeler, ex Falcon, Louis Neal, and ex Colt Don Westbrook. The college draft brings Georgia's big, swift Richard Appleby and tight end Brad Jenkins of Nebraska.

Defensively the groundwork was laid for a decent line.

Tampa had the first pick in the college draft and chose Oklahoma's brilliant Leroy Selmon. "Best athlete in the draft," said McKay, accurately.

In the second round the Buccaneers took Leroy's brother, Dewey.

Leroy will be stationed at end, along with ex Bill-Cowboy Pat Toomay, an accomplished pass rusher. Dewey can team with Dave Pear, a seldom-used rookie with Baltimore last year, at tackles in Abe Gibron's shadow front four.

Gibron, ex head coach of the Bears, is the defensive coordinator and line coach.

Gibron also has ex Cardinal Council Rudolph, ex Eagle Mitch Sutton, ex Bengal Steve Chomyszak, ex Bronco Pete Duranko and a kid who quit Colorado two years ago to play in the Canadian League, Bubba Bridges.

The linebacking is a mixed bag.

Jimmy Gunn, an All-America



HUGH CULVERHOUSE, owner of the Buccaneers, looks to future success.



TAMPA BAY assistant coaches (left to right): PHIL KRUEGER, ABE GIBRON, DICK VORIS, WAYNE FONTES, DENNIS FRYZEL, DICK BEAM, JOHN RAUCH, WILLIE BROWN and JERRY FREI. Gibron and Rauch are former NFL head coaches while Voris and Frei served as assistant NFL coaches.

They include Earl Douthitt of the Bears, Joe Blahak of Minnesota, Ken Stone of Washington (the fifth back in the Redskins' "nickle defense), Durwood Keeton of the Pats, Rocky Davis of Cincinnati and Mark Cotney of Houston.

Best of the college safeties is Curtis Jordan of Texas Tech, a sixth-round selection.

The Bucs, who probably will be returning a lot of kicks, are well set in that department. Hart led the American Conference in kickoff returns with a 30.5-yard average which included a 102-yard touchdown return against Miami in the opening game.

Moore averaged 25 yards for San Francisco and Douthitt 25.6 for the Bears. Carl Roaches of Texas A&M, one of the best return men in the colleges last year, was a draftee.

Punting is no small thing for an expansion team. Tampa has two ex Packers, Steve Broussard and Randy Walker. The field goaler could be Greg Enright, formerly of Cincinnati.

A considerable portion of the roster will change with each of the NFL waiver wires this season, of course.

for McKay at USC and a starter for Gibron in Chicago, is a good bet to play an outside position in Tampa. The Bucs gave up two draft choices, a fourth and fifth, for Jim Peterson of the Rams. He's likely to be the starter in the middle.

Also among the leading candidates are Cal Peterson, the ex Cowboy McKay remembers well from UCLA; Steve Reese, obtained in a trade with the Jets; and Larry Ball, acquired from Detroit but better known as an effective spot player for Miami.

Ron Wolf, the Bucs' talent boss, took some calculated risks for little-used players in the expansion pool. They include Bubba Broussard from the Bears, Steve Colavito, an ex WFLer from the Eagles, and ex Bear Larry Ely.

The free agent market got him ex Cowboy Ralph Coleman and Leroy Johnson. The draftees are Sid Smith of Brigham Young, Steve Maughan of Utah State and Tom West of Tennessee.

Tampa traded a third-round pick to Baltimore for ex Alabama star Mike Washington, who didn't play as a rookie last year. He could turn out to be a find as a corner back.

Frank Oliver, the ex Bill, came in the expansion draft. He should be pushed by Michael Kelson of West Texas State and Mel Washington of Colorado State, two draftees.

Most of the defensive backs taken in the expansion pool were safety types.

BUCCANEERS VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
67	Alward, Tom	G	6-4	255	24	1	Nebraska
87	Andrews, John	TE	6-3	238	28	4	Indiana
53	Ball, Larry	LB	6-6	235	27	5	Louisville
3	Bauer, Steve	P	6-2	185	27	1	New Mexico
21	Blahak, Joe	CB	5-10	188	26	4	Nebraska
62	Bridges, Bubba	DT	6-3	250	25	1	Colorado
56	Broussard, B.	P	6-2	231	24	1	Houston
2	Broussard, S.	P	6-0	195	27	2	Miss. So'ern
17	Cappleman, Bill	QB	6-3	210	29	3	Florida St.
32	Carter, Louis	RB	5-11	200	23	2	Maryland
70	Chomyszak, S.	DT	6-6	270	32	8	Syracuse
54	Colavito, Steve	LB	5-11	225	25	2	Wake Forest
48	Coleman, Ralph	LB	6-4	216	26	2	N. C. A&T
33	Cotney, Mark	DB	5-11	200	24	2	Cameron
74	Current, Mike	T	6-4	270	31	10	Ohio St.
27	Davis, Ricky	DB	6-1	182	23	2	Alabama
43	Douthitt, Earl	DB	6-2	188	24	2	Iowa
55	Duranko, Pete	DT	6-2	255	33	8	Notre Dame
96	Ely, Larry	LB	6-1	225	29	4	Iowa
5	Enright, Greg	P	6-0	190	23	2	S. Ore. St.
72	Fest, Howard	G	6-6	262	30	9	Texas
19	Foot, James	QB	6-1	205	25	1	Del. Valley
25	Gagner, Larry	G	6-2	260	33	6	Florida
69	Gordon, Ira	G	6-3	283	29	7	Kansas St.
30	Gunn, Jimmy	LB	6-2	218	28	6	So. Calif.
34	Hart, Harold	RB	6-0	206	23	3	Tex. So'ern
97	Johnson, Leroy	LB	6-0	235	25	1	E. Tex. St.
46	Kearney, Jim	S	6-2	206	33	12	Pr. View
29	Keeton, D.	DB	5-10	180	24	2	Oklahoma
20	Kendrick, Vince	RB	6-0	223	24	3	Florida
39	LaGrand, Morris	RB	6-1	218	23	2	Tampa
86	Moore, Bob	TE	6-3	220	27	6	Stanford
44	Moore, M.	RB-KR	6-0	194	26	3	So. Calif.
80	Neal, Louis	WR	6-4	210	25	2	Pr. View
42	Oliver, Frank	DB	6-1	189	24	2	Ky. State
82	Pagac, Fred	TE	6-2	225	24	2	Ohio St.
76	Pear, Dave	DT	6-2	250	23	2	Washington
58	Peterson, Cal	LB	6-3	220	24	3	UCLA
57	Peterson, Jim	LB	6-5	240	26	2	S. Diego St.
75	Reavis, Dave	T	6-5	250	26	3	Arkansas
52	Reese, Steve	LB	6-2	232	24	2	Louisville
78	Rudolph, C.	DE	6-4	245	26	5	Ky. State
51	Ryczek, Dan	C	6-3	245	27	4	Virginia
88	Smith, Barry	WR	6-1	190	25	4	Florida St.
11	Spurrier, Steve	QB	6-2	200	31	9	Florida
28	Stone, Ken	DB	6-1	179	26	4	Vanderbilt
68	Sutton, Mitch	DT	6-4	255	25	2	Kansas
65	Thompson, D.	T-C	6-4	260	27	6	Clemson
66	Toomay, Pat	DE	6-6	244	28	7	Vanderbilt
4	Walker, Randy	P	5-10	190	25	2	No'western
73	Ward, John	C-G	6-4	250	28	5	Okl. St.
40	Washington, M.	DB	6-3	190	23	1	Alabama
81	Westbrook, Don	WR	5-11	187	24	1	Nebraska
85	Wheeler, Wayne	WR	6-1	185	26	1	Alabama
89	Williams, L.	WR	5-10	176	23	1	Texas Tech

ROOKIES

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
84	Appleby, R.	WR	6-3	210	24	Georgia
12	Berry, Jack	QB	6-3	200	22	Wash. & Lee
18	Dickinson, P.	QB	6-2	182	23	Miss. Valley
35	DuBose, Jimmy	RB	5-11	215	22	Florida
93	Dzierzak, Bob	DT	6-3	252	24	Utah St.
26	Jordan, Curtis	DB	6-2	182	22	Texas Tech
31	Kelson, Michael	DB	5-11	184	22	W. Tex. St.
77	Little, Charles	G	6-5	275	22	Houston
50	Maughan, Steve	LB	6-1	210	23	Utah St.
15	McKay, J. K.	WR	5-10	175	23	So. Calif.
23	Ragsdale, G.	RB	5-11	185	23	N. C. A&T
1	Roaches, Carl	KR	5-7	163	23	Tex. A&M
61	Selmon, Dewey	DT	6-1	257	23	Oklahoma
63	Selmon, Leroy	DE	6-3	262	22	Oklahoma
59	Smith, Sid	LB	6-2	228	23	Brig. Young
24	Washington, M.	DB	5-11	170	24	Colorado St.
64	Welch, Bruce	G	6-3	247	23	Texas A&M
49	West, Tom	LB	6-1	215	22	Tennessee
79	Wilson, Steve	OT	6-3	260	22	Georgia
71	Young, Steve	T	6-8	257	23	Colorado

Pre-Season Games

July	31	AT Los Angeles (N)
Aug.	7	AT Green Bay (Milw) (N)
	14	Atlanta at Jacksonville (N)
	21	MIAMI (N)
	28	CHICAGO (N)
Sept.	4	CINCINNATI (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

Sept.	12	AT Houston
	19	SAN DIEGO
	26	BUFFALO
Oct.	3	AT Baltimore
	10	AT Cincinnati
	17	SEATTLE
	24	MIAMI
	31	KANSAS CITY
Nov.	7	AT Denver
	14	AT N.Y. Jets
	21	CLEVELAND
	28	AT Oakland
Dec.	5	AT Pittsburgh
	12	NEW ENGLAND



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WK 3	LAST WEEK'S COLLEGE PICKS: WON 6 OF 7 & PROS 3 OF 4. TOTAL: WON 9 OUT OF 11 VS LINE	WK 6	OUR RECORD PAST 4 WEEKS: Top 4 College: 12-3-1. Total: Top 2 Pro: 7-1. Total: WON 19 of 23 VS. SPREAD	WK 9	OUR RECORD PAST 7 WEEKS: TOP 5 COLLEGE: 22-11-2! TOP 2 PRO: 10-4! TOTAL: WON 32 of 47 VS. SPREAD	WK 12	LAST WEEK: COLLEGE - TOP PICK COVERED BY 13. BIG THREE PRO: 3 out of 3
WK 4	OUR PRO CHOICES PAST 2 WEEKS: WON 7, LOST ONLY 1. AND WE WON 17 of 21 VS. SPREAD ON RATED COLLEGE & PRO PAST 2 WEEKS!	WK 7	OUR RECORD PAST 5 WEEKS: Top 5 College: 17-6-2! Total: Top 2 Pro: 8-2! Total: WON 25 of 33 VS. SPREAD	WK 10	OUR RECORD PAST 6 WEEKS: TOP 5 COLLEGE: 25-13-2! TOP 2 PRO: 11-5! TOTAL: WON 36 of 54 VS. SPREAD	WK 13	We Called Arkansas' Upset Over A&M Basketball Best Bets: Last Weekend: 7 of 9!

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MIAMI DOLPHINS

PREDICTION 1st

After the Dolphins won their second straight Super Bowl in 1974, owner Joe Robbie and coach Don Shula feuded so openly and so bitterly that it took the Roman Catholic bishop of Miami to bring about a truce.

What must it be like now that the Dolphins missed the playoffs for the first time since Shula came to the team in 1970?

Fortune hasn't smiled on football's sunshine team in a while. Larry Csonka, the fullback who helped them win those Super Bowls, is back in the NFL but not back with the Dolphins. Paul Warfield is back in the NFL, but not back with the Dolphins.

Some of the great defensive players who helped construct those long winning streaks, are gone or are about to go.

The Dolphins even lost two games in the Orange Bowl, something about as rare as snow on Collins Ave.

In another bitter irony, Shula's

old team, Baltimore, reconstructed by a Dolphin expatriate, Joe Thomas, rose from the ashes of a 2-12 season to win the Eastern Division championship in the American Conference.

But all of those unpleasant facts don't mean the Dolphins will be spoken of in the past tense around the NFL. Two elements make it probable that Miami will come battling back to retake the title this season.

1. Shula probably did a better coaching job with last year's Dolphin team than with any of his more successful clubs in Miami. No one has more pride. No one reacts more emphatically to a challenge. He'll have one in 1976 and his players will get one from him.

2. The Dolphins have been stockpiling young talent. Some of it blossomed last year. Some more of it will probably blossom this year. Along with that fresh talent there is a nucleus of experienced pros still in their prime.

Just how far those kids have come and how much the Dolphins have met Shula's challenge may be gauged in the opening game of the season, the year's first Monday-night Extravaganza. That's when Miami journeys to Buffalo to meet a Bills team which never has defeated a Shula-coached club. It should be a war.

This Dolphin squad should be a far different one than began last season.

For instance one of the long time strengths of the Dolphins was a linebacking unit consisting of Nick Buoniconti in the middle, flanked by Doug Swift and Mike Kolen. Only Kolen remains a contender for a starting job and he must prove to Shula that he can come all the way back from his '75 knee injury.

Swift, who had announced that he was enrolling in the University of Pennsylvania Medical School

DON SHULA, Coach.

Assistants: Tom Keane, Carl Taseff, Mike Scarry, Howard Schnellenberger, Don Doll, John Sanducky.

and would give up football anyway, was shipped to Tampa Bay in the expansion draft. Buoniconti, whose thumb was shattered early last season, was placed on injured reserve for the rest of the year and when the season ended Shula made it clear that if Nick came back at age 35, it would have to be as a reserve.

For most of last season it was a foregone conclusion that Larry Csonka would once again be a Dolphin in '76, once his commitment to John Bassett, the World League mogul, expired.

Instead Csonka spurned Miami's offer and signed with the New York Giants.

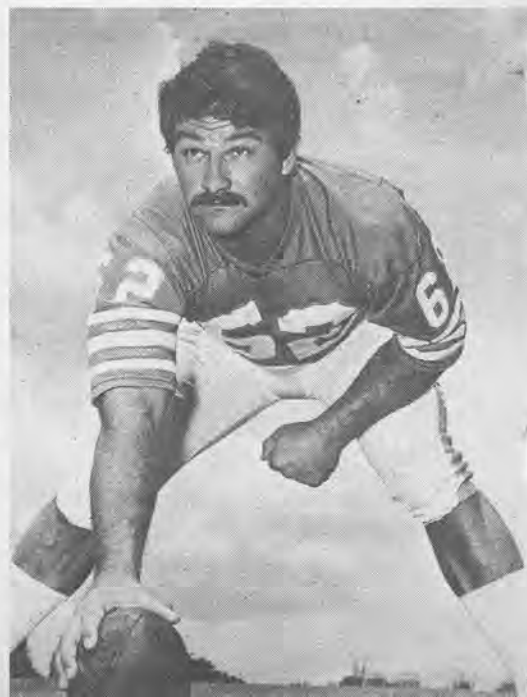
That means the Dolphins will not go back to the style of offense they employed in their Super Bowl years. Instead, they will mount a hybrid power-running attack, part Don Nottingham and part Norm Bulaich.

In the halycon days, Miami had the best safeties in football. Dick Anderson literally vacuumed footballs into his possession

BOB GRIESE completed 61.8 per cent of his passes in '75 campaign.



JIM LANGER, 6-2, 253, gets high marks for his solid job at center.



at the strong safety position. Jake Scott blended the best aspects of a center fielder and an assassin in his style of playing free safety.

Last year, the second in a row, Anderson suffered a knee injury and missed the season. Scott played, but suffered through the fall with a knee injury which might have benched lesser men. Their time with the Dolphins may be short.

In any new order, the offensive pinwheel remains Bob Griese. By Shula's own testimony, he is one of the handful of NFL quarterbacks who can lift a team beyond its capabilities. Miami fell out of contention last year after he suffered a knee injury which kayoed him in the last month.

Despite losing Warfield, being injured, losing Csonka, Griese still managed to complete 61.8 percent of his passes for 1693 yards and 14 touchdowns. His value, however, lies far beyond mere statistics.

It may seem strange that Griese's stand-in is a 42-year-old veteran of 20 NFL seasons, but Earl Morrall nearly pulled the Dolphins into the playoffs until he, too suffered a knee injury. Shula is comfortable with him.

When Morrall got hurt, seldom-used young Don Strock got the duty and he had a spectacular game as the Dolphins won a critical contest from Buffalo.

The running attack was divided among four backs. Mercury Morris made a good comeback from his injury-filled season of 1974, gaining 875 yards in 219 carries. Nottingham, who scored a dozen touchdowns, gained another 718 on 168 carries.

Bulaich, once a star with Baltimore, was used as much for his pass receiving skills as he was a ball carrier but he still managed 309 yards on 78 carries. Benny Malone, slowed by injuries, had 220 in 65 trips. Malone, the kind of hustling, all-around back Shula likes, could push Morris to the limit this season.

Whoever carries the ball gets just about the finest blocking in the NFL. The heart of the Miami offense is the line. Four of the five positions are manned by men who have been selected for the Pro Bowl or All-Pro teams. Jim

Langer is almost unchallenged as the best center in football. Larry Little is a 265-pound terror leading interference on a sweep and his fellow guard, Bob Kuechenberg, is a devastating trapper and drive blocker. Wayne Moore operates at tackle like the basketball player he once was.

The only questionable position is the tackle opposite Moore. The man who worked there since 1966, Norm Evans, was dispatched to Seattle via the expansion draft. His heir apparent is Darryl Carlton, the big fellow from Tampa U. whom the Dolphins made their first-round draft choice a year ago. Carlton didn't play much as a rookie, but Shula and John Sandusky the new line coach, seem convinced he can make it.

The receiver corps has been shaken up drastically in the last two years.

Nat Moore, a star rookie just two seasons ago, is now the senior starting wide receiver. Fred Solomon broke in across from him last year. Moore caught 40 passes, Solomon 22. Howard Twilley the 32-year-old veteran being phased out of the operations, caught 24. Behind him is Cotton Spreyer, another vet and Morris Owens, who got hurt after two games last year.

The draft brings a flyer in the Moore-Solomon mold, wispy little Duriel Harris of New Mexico State.

Just when tight end Jim Mandich got rid of his seasoned competition, Marv Fleming, another big, strong blocker, Andre Tillman came along to divide the playing time with him. Tillman, who licked a knee problem, was only a rookie last year. Behind them is Jim McFarland and now there is a fourth entry. Second-round choice Loaird McCreary of Tennessee State, who is built more along the lines of a wide receiver.

Mandich caught 21 passes, four for touchdowns in '75.

Shula aimed his drafting process at rebuilding the linebacking corps. His first two picks were Larry Gordon, the big, tough hombre from Arizona State, and Kim Bokamper, equally big and tough from San Jose State.



BILL STANFILL and VERN DEN HERDER (86) smother the enemy.

Eventually Bokamper should inherit the "53" utility role—part end, part linebacker—which has been filled by Bob Matheson since 1970. Gordon could succeed Swift this season.

The middle linebacker will probably be Steve Towle, a sixth-round pick who played like a four-year pro when Buoniconti's injury forced him into the lineup. Towle has the instinct. Ernie Rhone, a free agent rookie last year, was another youngster who helped in a time of need.

There will be a major battle at defensive tackle.

Last season Shula lost both his starters—Bob Heinz for the entire year and Manny Fernandez for long periods. Inserted in their positions were Randy Crowder and Don Reece, two second year men. Crowder, cat quick, was a load for any center or guard to handle. Reece, 1974's No. 2 draftee was just as about as strong and quicker than Heinz.

Now the four of them will fight it out for playing time.

The ends, Bill Stanfill and



MIKE KOLEN, proven linebacker, was hampered by knee injury in '75.

DON NOTTINGHAM gained 718 yards for Dolphins in '75 campaign.



Vern Den Herder, are the constants. They rival Pittsburgh's pair of Dwight White and L.C. Greenwood for pass-rushing, run-playing balance.

Corner back Curtis Johnson, who hadn't intercepted a pass the year before, stole three in one game against the New York Jets and then everyone began to notice him. The trouble is he had been playing steadily efficient football for seasons. The other corner, Tim Foley is expert at playing Shula's zone coverage but Jeris White is about mature enough to give him a major challenge.

Anderson may be healed in '75, but at 30 it will be very difficult for him to win back his job from Charlie Babb, who did an exceptional imitation of him for two years. Babb plays the run or pass with equal relish.

When rookie Barry Hill deflected an extra point attempt which preserved Miami's final-game victory over Denver, it was almost a signal to Shula that he was ready for bigger things—like Scott's job.

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Yepremian, 79 points on 40 XP, 13 field goals	10th
RUSHING —Morris, 219 carries for 875 yds., 4.0 Avg., 4 TDs	6th
PASSING —Griese, 118 of 191 attempts for 1693 yds., 14 TDs	5th
RECEIVING —N. Moore, 40 receptions for 705 yds., 4 TDs	16th
INTERCEPTIONS —Scott, 6 for 60 yds., 10.0 Avg.	9th
PUNTING —Seiple, 65 punts, 38.6 Avg., longest 61 yds.	11th
PUNT RETURNS —Solomon, 26 for 320 yds., 12.3 Avg., 1 TD	3rd
KICKOFF RETURNS —Solomon, 17 for 348 yds., 20.5 Avg.	16th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 MINNESOTA (N)
Aug.	8 AT Detroit
	14 PHILADELPHIA (N)
	21 AT Tampa (N)
	28 AT Houston (N)
Sept.	4 AT New Orleans (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 13 AT Buffalo (N)	35-30
19 AT New England	22-14
26 N.Y. JETS	27-7
Oct. 3 LOS ANGELES (4 pm)	—
10 AT Baltimore (4 pm)	7-10
17 KANSAS CITY	—
24 AT Tampa Bay	—
31 NEW ENGLAND	20-7
Nov. 7 AT N.Y. Jets	43-0
14 AT Pittsburgh (4 pm)	—
22 BALTIMORE (N)	17-33
28 AT Cleveland	—
Dec. 5 BUFFALO (4 pm)	31-21
11 MINNESOTA	—

STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL

Who can kick about Garo Yepremian's field-goaling? He went 13-for-16 last year, although he did miss a half dozen extra points. Rookie Mike Green of Ohio U is being brought in to maintain Garo's attention.

Punter-running-back-tight end Larry Seiple is still a valuable man to have on the team. His average of 38.6 wasn't much but he does well in the clutch situations.

DOLPHINS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
40	Anderson, Dick	SS	6-2	196	30	8	Colorado
70	Andrews, John	DT	6-6	251	25	2	Morgan St.
49	Babb, Charlie	SS	6-0	190	26	5	Memphis St.
31	Bulaich, Norm	RB	6-1	218	30	7	TCU
85	Buoniconiti, Nick	LB	5-11	220	36	14	Notre Dame
71	Carlton, Darryl	T	6-6	260	23	2	Tampa
74	Crowder, Randy	DT	6-2	236	24	3	Penn St.
11	Del Gaizo, Jim	QB	6-1	190	29	5	Tampa
83	Den Herder, V.	DE	6-6	252	28	6	Central Iowa
78	Douglas, Tom	TE	6-4	255	27	5	Oregon
75	Fernandez, M.	DT	6-2	250	30	9	Utah
25	Foley, Tim	CB	6-0	194	28	7	Purdue
28	Ginn, Hubert	RB	5-10	185	29	7	Florida A&M
12	Griese, Bob	QB	6-1	190	31	10	Purdue
72	Heinz, Bob	DT	6-6	265	29	7	Pacific
44	Hill, Barry	S	6-3	185	23	2	Iowa St.
45	Johnson, Curtis	CB	6-1	196	28	7	Toledo
57	Kolen, Mike	LB	6-2	222	28	7	Auburn
67	Kuechenberg, B.	G	6-2	252	29	7	Notre Dame
62	Langer, Jim	C	6-2	253	28	7	So. Dak. St.
66	Little, Larry	G	6-1	265	31	10	B.-Cookman
32	Malone, Benny	RB	5-10	193	24	3	Arizona St.
88	Mandich, Jim	TE	6-2	224	28	7	Michigan
53	Matheson, Bob	LB	6-4	235	32	10	Duke
80	McFarland, Jim	TE	6-5	225	29	7	Nebraska
89	Moore, Nat	WR	5-9	180	25	3	Florida
79	Moore, Wayne	T	6-7	265	31	7	Lamar Tech
15	Morrall, Earl	QB	6-2	210	42	21	Mich. St.
22	Morris, Mercury	RB	5-10	192	29	8	W. Tex. St.
64	Newman, Ed	G	6-2	245	25	4	Duke
36	Nottingham, D.	RB	5-10	210	27	6	Kent St.
	Owens, Morris	WR	6-0	190	23	2	Arizona St.
76	Reese, Don	DE-DT	6-6	255	25	3	Jackson St.
55	Rhone, Ernie	LB	6-2	212	23	2	Henderson
13	Scott, Jake	S	6-0	188	31	7	Georgia
20	Seiple, Larry	P-RB	6-0	214	31	10	Kentucky
86	Solomon, F.	WR	5-11	181	23	2	Tampa
82	Speyrer, Cotton	WR	6-0	175	27	5	Texas
84	Stanfill, Bill	DE	6-5	252	29	8	Georgia
10	Strock, Don	QB	6-5	203	26	3	Va. Tech
87	Tillman, Andre	TE	6-5	230	24	2	Texas Tech
56	Towle, Steve	LB	6-2	233	23	2	Kansas
81	Twilley, Howard	WR	5-10	185	33	11	Tulsa
41	White, Jeris	CB	5-11	180	24	3	Hawaii
33	Winfrey, Stan	RB	5-11	223	23	2	Ark. State
1	Yepremian, Garo	K	5-8	175	32	10	None

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Bachman, Ted	CB	6-0	196	22	N. Mex. St.
Ballina, Jose	K	6-0	196	22	Northridge
Bokamper, Kim	LB	6-5	240	22	S. Jose St.
Brandford, D.	DT	6-5	283	22	No'western
Cotton, Clarence	LB	6-4	205	23	N.C. State
Davey, Bill	G	6-2	250	23	Illinois St.
Davis, Gary	RB	5-10 1/2	196	23	Cal Poly
Fencik, Gary	S	6-1	185	22	Yale
Gissler, Bob	LB	6-4	215	22	S. Dakota St.
Gordon, Larry	LB	6-3 1/2	230	22	Ariz. St.
Grantz, Jeff	QB	5-11 1/2	185	23	So. Carolina
Green, Mike	K	6-3	190	23	Ohio U.
Harris, Duriel	WR	5-11	175	23	N. Mex. St.
Head, Bernie	C	6-3 1/2	235	23	Tulsa
Holmes, Ron	RB	6-2	205	22	Utah St.
Ingersoll, Joe	OG-T	6-3	260	23	Las Vegas
McCreary, L.	TE	6-5	240	23	Tenn. St.
Mitchell, Melvin	OG	6-3	255	23	Tenn. St.
Owens, Johnny	DE	6-4	250	23	Tenn. St.
Pride, Dexter	RB	6-3 1/2	217	23	Minnesota
Simpson, Bob	OT	6-5	240	23	Colorado
Testerman, Don	RB	6-1	230	23	Clemson
Thomas, Norris	CB	5-11	175	23	So'ern Miss.
Young, Randy	OT	6-5	255	23	Iowa St.

FREE AGENTS

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Coleman, Lonnie	LB	6-2	210	23	Iowa St.
Farley, James	TE	6-2	210	23	Pittsburgh
Heath, Clayton	RB	5-11	200	24	Wake Forest
Henry, Joe	P	6-0	190	24	Indiana (Pa.)
Lally, Bob	LB	6-2	220	25	Cornell
Moore, John	S	6-0	185	23	Fisk
Valbuena, Gary	QB	6-3	201	25	Tennessee
Williams, C.	WR	6-1	185	22	Lincoln
Wolfe, Bob	OT	6-4	260	25	Nebraska

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Change weight resistance at ANY instant during the exercise. No stopping to disturb the body building exercise. This is the Isokinetic Principle that builds your body to athletic proportions faster, surer than any other method. POWEREX adds inches to chest and arm muscle in a "bench press" . . . BUT without costly bench, stands and weights! (Patent pending)

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A group of researchers stated that all published research matching isokinetics with weight lifting and isometrics showed that isokinetics is greatly superior for muscle building.

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● "I'm beginning to look like I did when I got out of the Marine Corps." —Don C., PA.

● "In just 6 weeks, I put 2" on my arms, 3" on my chest, 2" on my thighs, and gained 22 lbs." —N.D.

● "In complete honesty, I think it is a great exercise program . . . the best one on the market!!!!" —Dave Fuss, IL.

● "You just aren't another rip-off company. You back what you say." —T Roeklein, WI.

● "I've averaged from 2.3" on my legs, arms, and chest — I'm glad that I did invest the money." —Richard Oxer, MT.

● "Enclosed is my money order (for a new Powerex). I know how good it is. I had one and I lost it. I am in several sports and cannot win without Powerex. It is the greatest!" —G Scott, Canada.

● "Arms increased 2½", chest 3", decreased waist 2", and gained 20 lbs. — look and feel a lot better!" —Joseph Moreno, CA.

● "I used to be a singles man — this season I was a home run hitter, and I credit Powerex with this." —T J, AL.

● "The results are just FANTASTIC!" —Richard Lynn, MN.

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POWEREX is going to do all this for you thru the following ISOKINETIC PRINCIPLES:

- (1) **POWEREX** builds your muscles through their full range of movement. It works every small muscle fiber to its utmost. Not the grunt-and-groan partial static results of an Isometric gadget, but the total dynamic power of Isokinetics.
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BUFFALO BILLS

PREDICTION 2nd

After one month of the last National League season, the Buffalo Bills were the talk of the nation. They had a 4-0 record. They not only defeated Pittsburgh, they stomped them. O. J. Simpson was headed for another smash year and the people were beginning to speak of the Bills as a Super Bowl team.

But the word on the Bills came early in November.

Actually it wasn't a word but a gesture. It was made by Marty Domres, Baltimore's backup quarterback in a game in which Buffalo was flogging his team, 28-7.

The Colts lined up to kick a consolation field goal which everyone in the stadium seemed to know would turn into a fake. Fake it was, with Domres flipping the ball to fullback Bill Olds, who tromped over a Buffalo player for a touchdown.

Domres turned to his bench as Olds crossed the goal line. Marty gave it the hands-up, shrugged-shoulders sign, as if "nothing could be easier."

It turned out to be an eloquent and prophetic gesture. The Bills couldn't stop the Colts for the rest of the afternoon and lost. 45-38, and they couldn't stop many other NFL teams for the rest of the season. The result was that they became the game's symbol for "good-hit, no-field" football and missed out on the playoffs.

The definitive word on the Bills may have come one Saturday in June when O.J. announced that he would no longer wear Buffalo's No. 32 jersey, that he must, for personal reasons, play on the West Coast.

His departure is staggering for a team which put all its eggs in its offensive basket in 1975. The Juice had the finest season of his career, breaking Gale Sayers' record for touchdowns scored in a season, 23, and winning his third NFL ground-gaining title in the

last four seasons. His 1817 yards were the third most in league history, surpassed only by his 2003 in '73 and Jim Brown's 1863 in '63.

Spurred by Simpson, the Bills compiled the best offensive record in the NFL, scoring 420 points, gaining 5467 yards in all, rushing for 2974 and passing for 2493 with a total of 57 touchdowns.

Quarterback Joe Ferguson passed for 25 touchdowns, 10 more than any Buffalo player before him. Fullback Jim Braxton scored 13 touchdowns and ran for 823 yards. Wide receiver Bob Chandler caught 55 passes. O. J. and wide receiver J. D. Hill each caught seven touchdown passes and Chandler six.

But as fast as they could pile up the catches, yards, touchdowns and points the Buffalo defense surrendered as many or more.

The enemy scored 355 points on the Bills, rolled up 5073 yards, 3080 in the air, and scored 46 touchdowns.

Buffalo scored 51 points in two games against its arch enemy, Miami, and won neither game. The Dolphins won the first, 35-30 and the second, 31-21. Miami now has won 12 straight in the series.

Buffalo scored even more against its other major Eastern foe, Baltimore, 73 points. The best the Bills could do was a split.

It will be Lou Saban's principal task to upgrade this leaky defense.

He'll attack the problem three ways:

1. Switching from a normal 4-man defensive line with three linebackers to the "30" defense, the 3-down linemen, four linebacker setup used by Houston and New England as basic defense.

2. By casting his fate with younger players on defense.

3. By stockpiling defensive backs so he doesn't get deci-

LOU SABAN, Coach.

Assistants: John Ray, Jim Ringo, Jim LaRue, Jerry Wampfler, Richie McCabe.

mated by injury as he did last year.

"I'm really not in favor of using the '30' setup, admits the coach. "But it's best for us as our defense is currently composed. We'll try to do as much stuff, use as many variations as we can off it."

What he means is that he'll probably have linebackers coming out of the woodwork on blitzes and disguising an actual 4-man line by having a linebacker serve as an extra defensive end.

The Bills amputated the two men who started at defensive end for them at the start of last season. Pat Toomay went to Tampa Bay in the expansion draft. Walt Patulski, the big Notre Damer the Bills made the No. 1 pick in the entire draft in 1972, was shipped to St. Louis for a second-round draft choice. He was a major disappointment in Buffalo.

If Saban wants to field an all-veteran front three, he can put Mike Kadish at nose guard, flanked by Earl Edwards and Jeff Winans or Don Croft at end.

But the coach may go the youth route. He drafted that way. Ken Jones of Arkansas State made all the pro-picked All-America teams as an offensive guard but he was an all South-

ED JONES, defensive back, made all-NFL rookie team for '75 season.





JOE FERGUSON passed for 25 TDs in '75 looks for receiver, with help from guard REGGIE MCKENZIE.



O.J. SIMPSON scored a record 23 touchdowns in '75.

lands Conference defensive lineman his freshman year and the Bills will try the 6-5, 250-pound tough guy as a defensive end first of all. The third-round draftee. Mississippi's Ben Williams, had almost 40 quarterback sacks in three varsity seasons. "He could be our nose guard," admits Saban.

Also on the roster is Jeff Yeates, a quick, strong youngster who also will get a full shot at winning the nose guard job.

The Bills enter the season with only one proven linebacker, John Skorupan. He'll play one of the outside positions. The probable starter on the other side is Tom Ruud. He was the Bills' No. 1 draft choice last year, but he didn't sign a contract until Labor Day weekend. That meant he missed the entire training camp. He wasn't of any use to the club until the final month of the season, but the Bills think he could be a heavy contributor in '76.

The inside jobs may be harder to fill. Doug Allen's lack of speed and quickness handicapped him in the normal 3-linebacker setup, but he played his best football late last year when the Bills shifted to the '30.' He is an intelligent player and a hitter. The

other inside position may go to an unknown quantity Bob Nelson, like Ruud a Nebraska linebacker who was Buffalo's second pick last year. He, too, didn't sign until Labor Day weekend, then played one exhibition game, sprained an ankle and was placed on the reserve list.

He was drydocked as much for his attitude as for his injury, but Saban feels he can be a big help with a fresh outlook. At 6-4 and 233 pounds, he has ideal size.

The Bills drafted all-Big 10 Dan Jilek, who was a roving defensive end for Michigan but will be an outside linebacker in the pros. Mark Johnson who won the team's rookie-of-the-year award for his reckless work on special teams, will be tried as a combination linebacker-defensive end.

Others in the competition may be onetime starter Bo Cornell, second-year pro John McCrumbly and rookies Jeff Turner of Kansas, Arnold Robinson of Bethune Cookman and Gary Gorrell of Boise State.

The best thing which could happen to the Bills' defense is if it stays healthy in 1976. "That's our strength and stability back there," says Saban. "And we

were murdered by bad luck in '75."

Two all-pro defenders from '74 were injured. Corner back Robert James, one of the finest in football, tore up a knee last summer and missed the entire season. Free safety Tony Greene, who was returning from knee surgery, broke his collarbone in the first exhibition game. When he returned in the regular season he was played out of position, at corner, because of James' injury. That hurt him almost as much as his injuries.

Saban traded with Kansas City for Doug Jones to bolster strong safety. But Jones tore up his knee in an exhibition game and missed the season. He'll vie with another Jones, Ed, who made the NFL all-rookie team last year, for the job.

The team's interception leader, Dwight Harrison, plays the other corner. He stole eight. To insure against decimation again, Saban made a corner back Mario Clark of Oregon, his No. 1 draft choice. He is particularly adept at playing man to man, the coverage most admired by the new secondary coach, Richie McCabe.

What the Bills aim for on offense is a reasonable facsimile of

the attack when it contained O.J.

The entire offense revolved around Simpson for the last seven years. Even Ferguson's passes usually were preceded by a play action fake to the Juice. Just how the young quarterback will function without football's No. 1 threat in back of him is a mystery. Fergy also must provide leadership, which previously had been O.J.'s department.

Even last year the worry about the running game was lack of depth. The heir apparent to O.J.'s job is veteran Vic Washington, who hasn't been a starter in three years. That could change abruptly, depending upon the kind of deal owner Ralph Wilson makes for O.J.

Three backs were drafted in the middle rounds. All have a chance to stick. The three are Darnell Powell of Chattanooga, Bobby Joe Easter of Middle Tennessee and Joe Lowrey of Jackson State.

Buffalo has one of the most powerful offensive lines in the NFL. Guard Joe DeLamielleure was all-pro last year and the other guard, Reggie McKenzie, is one of the finest pulling blockers in football. The center is rugged Mike Montler. The tackles, Dave Foley and Donnie Green aren't quite up to the other three but they are devastating drive blockers.

There is depth, too. Willie Parker is an able substitute at center or guard. Bill Adams is a 5-year guard with excellent power. If Jones can't convert to defense, he'll be welcome as a reserve guard. Another second-round pick, Joe Devlin, played guard at Iowa but at 6-5 and 270 he may be able to challenge either Green or Foley. Also on the draft list are Minnesota guard Art Meadowcroft and Texas' All-Southwest Conference guard, Will Wilcox.

Top backup wide receiver is John Holland. The draft brings Scott Piper of Arizona, Forry Smith of Iowa State and Tony Williams of Middle Tennessee.

Paul Seymour, who functions as much as a tackle is the tight end. When the Bills want to go deep, they put big, swift Reuben Gant in the lineup. The X factor

is Fred Coleman, a 6-4, 240-pounder who caught 76 passes in his Northeast Louisiana career.

Ferguson, for all his statistics, probably will be pushed by the Bills' charismatic young backup quarterback, Gary Marangi. Marangi pushed Fergy right up to opening day for the job last year.

To keep them company, Saban drafted Virginia's Scott Gardner who was one of the outstanding prospects before the '75 season began. He then suffered through an unhappy senior year.

Marv Bateman had a 41.6-yard punting year, but John Leypoldt had his poorest season as a field goaler, connecting only nine of 16 times. He'll be pushed by Bob Berg, the New Mexico All-America who side-winded 41-for-56 in three varsity seasons, including a five field goal game against Fresno State last year.

The Bills' open the season in a sticky manner. They play host to their hex team, Miami, in the first Monday night game, then meet Houston, a team they haven't defeated since 1966 losing 8 straight.

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Simpson, 138 points on 23 TDs (16 run, 7 pass)	1st
RUSHING —Simpson, 329 carries for 1817 yds., 5.5 Avg., 16 TDs	1st
PASSING —Ferguson, 169 of 321 attempts for 2426 yds., 25 TDs	6th
RECEIVING —Chandler, 55 receptions for 746 yds., 6 TDs	3rd
INTERCEPTIONS —Harrison, 8 for 99 yds., 12.4 Avg.	3rd
PUNTING —Bateman, 61 punts, 41.6 Avg., longest 74 yds.	2nd
PUNT RETURNS —Hayman, 25 for 216 yds., 8.6 Avg.	9th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Washington, 35 for 923 yds., 26.4 Avg.	4th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 AT Detroit
Aug.	7 AT Cincinnati (N)
	13 NEW ORLEANS (N)
	20 GREEN BAY (N)
	28 AT Los Angeles (N)
Sept.	3 CLEVELAND (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

		1975 Scores
Sept.	13 MIAMI (N)	30-35
	19 HOUSTON	—
	26 AT Tampa	—
Oct.	3 KANSAS CITY	—
	10 AT N.Y. Jets	24-23
	17 BALTIMORE	35-42
	24 NEW ENGLAND	45-31
	31 N.Y. JETS	42-14
Nov.	7 AT New England	34-14
	15 AT Dallas (N)	—
	21 SAN DIEGO	—
	25 AT Detroit (12:30)	—
Dec.	5 AT Miami (4:00)	21-31
	12 AT Baltimore	38-31



GARY MARANGI is capable No. 2 quarterback for the Buffalo Bills.

BILLS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs.	College
60	Adams, Bill	G	6-2	246	26	4	Holy Cross
59	Allen, Doug	LB	6-2	228	25	3	Penn St.
43	Banks, Harry	DB	5-11	185	25	1	Michigan
7	Bateman, Marv	P	6-4	214	26	5	Utah
34	Braxton, Jim	RB	6-1	242	27	6	West Va.
81	Chandler, Bob	WR	6-1	180	27	6	USC
30	Cornell, Bo	LB	6-1	222	27	6	Washington
72	Croft, Don	DT	6-4	260	27	4	El Paso
68	DeLamielleure, J.	G	6-3	248	25	4	Mich. St.
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88	Gant, Reuben	TE	6-4	230	24	3	Oklahoma
74	Green, Donnie	T	6-7	252	28	6	Purdue
43	Greene, Tony	DB	5-10	170	27	6	Maryland
28	Harrison, D.	CB	6-2	186	28	6	Texas A&M
40	Hill, J. D.	WR	6-1	185	28	6	Arizona St.
25	Hooks, Roland	RB	6-0	197	23	1	N.C. State
81	Holland, John	WR	6-1	190	24	3	Tenn. State
20	James, Robert	DB	6-1	184	29	7	Fisk
50	Johnson, M.	LB	6-2	236	23	2	Missouri
24	Jones, Doug	DB	6-2	205	26	3	Calif. St.
26	Jones, Ed	DB	6-0	185	24	2	Rutgers
71	Kadish, Mike	DT	6-5	270	26	4	Notre Dame
52	Krakau, Merv	LB	6-2	233	25	4	Iowa St.
3	Leypoldt, John	K	6-2	230	30	6	None
17	Marangi, Gary	QB	6-2	203	24	3	Boston Col.
57	McCrumbly, J.	LB	6-1	245	24	2	Texas A&M
67	McKenzie, R.	G	6-4	242	26	5	Michigan
41	McKinney, R.	DB	6-1	190	23	2	Kentucky St.
53	Montler, Mike	C	6-4	245	32	8	Colorado
56	Nelson, Bob	LB	6-4	232	23	2	Nebraska
61	Parker, Willie	G	6-3	245	28	5	N. Tex. St.
27	Rashad, Ahmad	WR	6-2	200	27	4	Oregon
54	Ruud, Tom	LB	6-2	223	23	2	Nebraska
23	Schnarr, Steve	RB	6-2	218	24	2	Ottawa
87	Seymour, Paul	TE	6-5	246	26	4	Michigan
32	Simpson, O.J.	RB	6-2	212	29	8	So. Calif.
55	Skorupan, John	LB	6-2	221	25	4	Penn St.
87	Thomas, Ike	DB	6-2	193	29	5	Bishop
33	Washington, V.	RB	5-11	195	30	6	Wyoming
75	Winans, Jeff	DE	6-5	260	25	4	So. Calif.
52	Yeates, Jeff	DT	6-3	250	25	3	Boston Col.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Benson, Leslie	DE	6-3	257	23	Baylor
Berg, Bob	K	5-10	158	23	N. Mexico
Clark, Mario	DB	6-2	190	22	Oregon
Coleman, Fred	TE	6-4	240	23	NE La.
Devlin, Joe	T	6-4	258	22	Iowa
Easter, Bobby J.	RB	5-10	191	25	Midd. Tenn.
Gardner, Scott	QB	6-2	192	22	Virginia
Gorrell, Gary	LB	6-3	219	22	Boise St.
Jelik, Dan	LB	6-2	212	23	Michigan
Jones, Ken	DE	6-5	252	24	Ark. St.
Kotzur, Bob	DT	6-5	253	22	S.W. Texas
Lowery, Joe	RB	5-9	203	23	Jackson St.
Meadowcroft, A.	G	6-3	250	22	Minnesota
Moody, Keith	DB	5-11	171	23	Syracuse
Piper, Scott	WR	6-1	179	22	Arizona
Powell, Darnell	RB	6-0	197	22	Chattanooga
Robinson, A.	LB	6-1	238	22	B. Cookman
Smith, Forry	WR	6-2	191	24	Iowa St.
Turner, Jeff	LB	6-3	234	23	Kansas
Wilcox, Will	G	6-3	243	23	Texas
Williams, Ben	DT	6-2	258	22	Mississippi
Williams, Jackie	DB	5-9	178	22	Tex. A&M
Williams, Tony	WR	6-1	188	23	Midd. Tenn.

PRO FOOTBALL WASN'T BORN YESTERDAY

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GRANGE

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Defense: Safety (4) TB-K

Pass Receiving: B-5-1(2) J-4, W-3-1(3)

R P K R P K R P K

11- 1- 1- 1 31- 5-14-11 51- 5-14-11

12-24-24-26 32-25-25-26 52-27-27-27

13- 5-15-14 33- 3- 1- 3 53-36-28-36

14-25-20-25 34-25-16-25 54-25-16-25

15- 3-12- 9 35- 3-13-11 55- 3-10- 9

16-21-18-21 36-21-18-21 56-21-18-21

21- 7-17-24 41- 7-17-24 61- 7-17-24

22- 3- 8- 5 42- 5-22-14 62- 5-23-23

23-21-20-22 43-21-20-22 63-21-20-22

24-29-29-20 44- 3- 9- 7 64-34-34-34

25- 5-19-11 45-25-19-20 65-35-35-35

26-31-31-23 46-21-21-14 66- 1- 1- 1

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BALTIMORE COLTS

TED MARCHIBRODA, Coach.
*Assistants: Frank Lauderbur,
 Jerry Smith, Pete McCulley,
 Maxie Baughan, George Bout-
 selis, Whitey Dovell.*

PREDICTION 3rd

Dogs aren't yapping at Joe Thomas' heels any more. When his name is mentioned in polite, Baltimore society, men don't expectorate. Parents no longer use his photograph to frighten naughty children. Colt pennants are no longer bordered in black.

Thomas was magically transformed from an ogre to a genius last season. The Colts went from the worst record in the American Conference to the playoffs.

Not only did they make the playoffs, but they passed Miami and Buffalo to win the Eastern Division title in the AFC. Not only wasn't it a fluke, but the Hosses could do it again.

A year ago, Thomas was best remembered as the man who traded away a legend, Johnny Unitas. Unfrocking him of a Colt uniform and sending him to San Diego, the NFL equivalent of St. Helena.

He had traded John Mackey, Tom Matte, Dan Sullivan, Bubba Smith, Ray May, Charlie Stukes, Norm Bulaich, Don Nottingham, Fred Miller and others too numerous to mention. The "Baltimore" old guard, the blue collar guys who were the backbone of the fan support, the people who sold out Municipal Stadium every Sunday had gone. Most of them wouldn't be back.

But Thomas had gambled. He virtually opted for a new team which would attract almost an entirely-new clientele.

In just two seasons he drafted a defensive line—tackles Joe Ehrmann and Mike Barnes one year, ends John Dutton and Fred Cook the next. He traded a veteran defensive end, Billy Newsome, to New Orleans for the first pick in the draft three years ago and selected a quarterback, Bert Jones of Louisiana State.

He went through coaches by the gross, it seemed, and even took the job himself for a while.

Then he got lucky and hired a low-key, incisive offensive expert named Ted Marchibroda off Allen's Washington staff.

By the time the 1975 season had ended, Marchibroda had been elected to the Polish Hall of Fame. He also was the coach of the year in the NFL.

Where Thomas left off, Marchibroda took over.

An ex quarterback himself, he communicated with Jones. Bert's transformation was amazing. One season he was a hesitant, inconsistent kid, awash with self doubt. The next he was the soul of confidence, a passer who thought it was inconceivable that he might throw an interception. He made the winning plays, throwing or running or thinking.

He was the same quarterback he always had been. The difference was a rapport with Marchibroda. Ted brought out his finest skills.

Each game seemed to unveil something new. Roger Carr revealed himself as the home-run catcher, a guy who could put the Colts on the scoreboard from any place on the field. The press-box experts were still arguing whether his 89-yard touchdown catch against Buffalo was a club record when he took another one

90 yards for a touchdown in the next game.

Glenn Doughty revealed himself as a possession catcher, a man whom Jones could rely on when he needed a first down. Tight end Raymond Chester rediscovered some of the ability he used to display every week when he was an Oakland Raider.

The success snowballed.

The New York Jets were drubbed. Then Cleveland. Then a 28-7 Buffalo lead was converted to a 45-38 Baltimore victory. The Jets were crushed again and then Miami was stunned right in the Orange Bowl.

The Colts were for real. The team which had finished the 1974 season in a punchy, 2-12 haze and opened 1975 with a 1-4 record, were in contention.

Baltimore did not lose until it met Pittsburgh in the playoffs. That's nine straight victories to end the regular season. It was the greatest form reversal in the history of the NFL.

Can it continue?

A lot depends upon Jones, himself. In one year he established his own status among the cream of NFL quarterbacks. His 203 completions gained 2483 yards and produced 18 touchdowns. His completion per-

BERT JONES ranked No. 3 among AFC quarterbacks in 1975 season.



GLENN DOUGHTY caught 30 passes for 17.1 yard average last season.





JOHN DUTTON (78), JOE EHREMAN (76), MIKE BARNES (63) and FRED COOK (72), Baltimore's front four, had 59 sacks in 1975.



TED MARCHIBRODA was named NFL Coach of the Year in first season.

tage was a gaudy 59 percent.

The most amazing part was that he had the lowest interception rate in the league, 2.3, an undeniable indication of poise.

Jones' emergence as a top quarterback helped Lydell Mitchell show his talents to the fullest. Franco Harris' old Penn State running mate had his greatest year as a pro, carrying the ball 289 times for 1193 yards and tying Cleveland's Reggie Rucker for the AFC reception championship with 60 catches. He scored 15 touchdowns.

The fly in the Colt's offensive ointment is the fullback position.

What Baltimore needs is a big, fast, hard-blocking fullback to take some pressure off Mitchell, do the heavy-duty work on short-yardage, block for Jones and be versatile enough to allow Marchibroda to expand his play book.

A gauge of how serious the situation is, can be found in Bill Olds' departure for Seattle in the expansion draft. Olds was the starting fullback last year. With him gone, Marchibroda is reduced to holdovers Roosevelt Leaks and Don McCauley. Leaks, once a brilliant pro prospect in his undergraduate days at Texas, is not the same player he was before a knee injury struck him down late in his junior season. McCauley is really a big half-back.

Marchibroda inserted both in

the lineup on short-yardage situations around the goal line last year. That ploy worked. McCauley scored 11 touchdowns.

But using one or the other full-time is another story. Marchibroda might have to do it, but it won't be the long-range answer. There are other possibilities. Kim Jones, a 6-4, 238-pounder from Colorado State missed his rookie season with an injury but he'll be inspected closely this year.

Thomas couldn't find the big back he wanted in the draft, but he gambled on Ron Lee, a big guy from West Virginia with unfulfilled promise.

It could be a position which haunts the Colts in the tight Eastern Division race.

Lee was the only running back drafted. There is one more interesting back on the roster, Marshall Johnson, but he may be inspected as a wide receiver. He was used out there in an early-season game against the Jets, his first NFL catch went for a 68-yard touchdown. His second for a 22-yard touchdown.

Baltimore could use some receiving depth. Doughty caught 30 passes for a 17.1-yard average and Carr 23 for a 22.5-yard average, but only seldom-used Freddie Scott is behind them. Baylor's Ricky Thompson was drafted on the eighth round.

Chester did his best playing at tight end since he came from Oakland in a big trade for Bubba

Smith three years ago, Raymond caught 38 passes and blocked effectively. Big Jimmy Kennedy is his backup.

With Marty Domres about to be phased out, Thomas had to look elsewhere for an eventual backup for Jones at quarterback. He picked up Bill Troup, who played little for Philadelphia, and drafted Mike Kirkland of Arkansas.

The surprise of the year for Baltimore was its offensive line.

Thomas wheeled and dealt for talent all year long. After trading his No. 1 draft choice to Atlanta for tackle George Kunz, he used another first-round choice to pick North Carolina's All-America guard, Ken Huff. He traded two high draft picks to Pittsburgh for the rights to Ed George, an All-Canadian League offensive tackle, then signed George. He traded another high pick to San Francisco for another onetime all-pro, center Forrest Blue.

After all that manipulating only Kunz started in the line.

The holdovers were partially pushed by the newcomers and partially caught in the Colt's new spirit. Ken Mendenhall beat out Blue at center. Bob Pratt wouldn't budge for his old North Carolina teammate, Huff. George couldn't move ahead of Dave Taylor at tackle. The one constant was veteran guard Elmer Collett.



STAN WHITE, Colt linebacker, grabbed eight interceptions in '75.

Defensively, the story of the Colts was the young line.

Dutton, who cost owner Bob Irsay a lot of money two years ago, demonstrated that he was worth it all. Ehrmann licked foot miseries to become one of the best "stay-home" tackles in the NFL. Cook, whom some NFL teams had viewed as a linebacker when he was in college, became a cat-quick pass rusher. Mike Barnes, shuffled between end and tackle, thrived once they left him alongside Ehrmann.

The end result was 59 sacks, highest in the NFL. The enemy quarterbacks didn't have enough time to take full advantage of the flaws in the Baltimore secondary. Not with folks like Dutton and Cook looking them eyeball-to-eyeball.

Thomas put such a premium on the value of a good defensive line that he selected another tackle on the first round of the last draft. His man is Ken Novak, the Purdue Hercules.

Other than Novak, the drafted rookie linemen are Rick Gibney of Georgia Tech and Jeremiah Cummings of Albany, Ga., State.

The rebuilding of the Colt line-backing corps was completed last year. The final touch was the phasing out of Mike Curtis, the longtime star middle linebacker, for Jim Cheyunski. Curtis and his huge paychecks were then taken by Seattle in the expansion draft.

Cheyunski, whose lack of size diluted his quickness and diagnostic ability in New England and Buffalo, thrived behind tackles like Ehrmann and Barnes.

Tom MacLeod, who came to the Colts a year before as compensation from Green Bay for Ted Hendricks, established himself as one of the quality linebackers in the AFC. Stan White, once a 17th-round draft choice, led all linebackers in the NFL with eight interceptions.

The Achilles heel is the secondary.

Last season might not have been the fantastic success it turned out to be if two lifesavers had been claimed from the waiver wire. Lloyd Mumphord, cast off by Miami, ended up a starting cornerback for the Colts. Jackie

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Mitchell, 90 points on 15 TDs (11 run, 4 pass)	5th
RUSHING —Mitchell, 289 carries for 1193 yds., 4.1 Avg., 11 TDs	3rd
PASSING —Jones, 203 of 344 attempts for 2483 yds., 18 TDs	3rd
RECEIVING —Mitchell, 60 receptions for 544 yds., 4 TDs	2nd
INTERCEPTIONS —White, 8 for 135 yds., 16.9 Avg., 1 TD	2nd
PUNTING —Lee, 86 punts, 39.6 Avg., longest 62 yds.	6th
PUNT RETURNS —Stevens, 36 for 396 yds., 11.0 Avg.	6th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Laird, 31 for 799 yds., 25.8 Avg.	5th

Pre-Season Games

July 31	Cleveland at Lincoln Neb.
Aug. 6	WASHINGTON (N)
	14 AT Chicago (N)
	20 NEW ORLEANS (N)
	28 AT Atlanta (N)
Sept. 2	AT Detroit (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12	AT New England 10-21
	19 CINCINNATI —
	26 AT Dallas —
Oct. 3	TAMPA BAY —
	10 MIAMI 10-7
	17 AT Buffalo 42-35
	24 AT N.Y. Jets 45-28
Nov. 1	HOUSTON (N) —
	7 AT San Diego —
	14 NEW ENGLAND 34-21
	22 AT Miami (N) 33-17
	28 N.Y. JETS 52-19
Dec. 4	AT St. Louis —
	12 BUFFALO 31-38

Wallace, rejected by Minnesota, finished as Baltimore's starting strong safety.

Bruce Laird had one of his better seasons at free safety but you could shake well with Nelson Munsey, Ray Oldham, Rick Volk and Ray Nettles and still not come up with more than a couple who could make other NFL rosters. Morgan State's Tim Baylor is the only draftee.

David Lee's 39.6 punting average put him in the middle of the AFC pack. Toni Linhart was a so-so 10 of 18 as a field goaler. He'll be challenged by Indiana rookie Frank Stavroff. Veteran Howard Stevens is a dangerous run-back specialist.

COLTS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
63	Barnes, Mike	DT	6-6	260	26	4	Miami (Fla.)
50	Blue, Forrest	C	6-5	261	31	9	Auburn
81	Carr, Roger	WR	6-3	193	24	3	La. Tech
87	Chester, R.	TE	6-4	236	28	7	Morgan St.
59	Cheyunski, Jim	LB	6-1	220	31	9	Syracuse
66	Collett, Elmer	G	6-5	246	32	10	S. Fran. St.
72	Cook, Fred	DE	6-4	247	24	3	So'ern Miss.
55	Dickel, Dan	LB	6-4	230	24	3	Iowa
14	Domres, Marty	QB	6-4	220	29	8	Columbia
35	Doughty, Glenn	WR	6-1	202	25	5	Michigan
78	Dutton, John	DE	6-7	268	25	3	Nebraska
76	Ehrmann, Joe	DT	6-4	254	27	4	Syracuse
73	George, Ed	T	6-4	270	30	2	Wake Forest
33	Hall, Randy	CB	6-3	185	24	2	Idaho
62	Huff, Ken	G	6-4	260	23	2	N. Carolina
29	Johnson, M.	RB	6-1	190	24	2	Houston
7	Jones, Bert	QB	6-3	212	25	4	LSU
46	Jones, Kim	RB	6-4	238	24	1	Colorado St.
85	Kennedy, Jimmie	TE	6-3	233	24	2	Colorado St.
75	Kunz, George	T	6-6	266	29	8	Notre Dame
40	Laird, Bruce	S	6-1	198	26	5	Amer. Int.
48	Leaks, Roosevelt	RB	5-10	219	23	2	Texas
49	Lee, David	P	6-5	221	33	11	La. Tech
2	Linhart, Toni	K	5-11	181	34	4	Austria
58	Luce, Derrel	LB	6-3	224	24	2	Baylor
52	MacLeod, Tom	LB	6-3	228	25	4	Minnesota
23	McCauley, Don	RB	6-1	216	27	6	No. Carolina
57	Mendenhall, Ken	C	6-3	249	28	6	Oklahoma
26	Mitchell, Lydell	RB	5-11	195	27	5	Penn St.
42	Mumphord, L.	CB	5-10	176	30	8	Tex. So'ern
31	Munsey, Nelson	CB	6-1	198	28	5	Wyoming
30	Nettles, Doug	CB	6-0	178	25	3	Vanderbilt
25	Oldham, Ray	S-CB	6-0	190	25	4	Middle Tenn.
61	Pratt, Robert	G	6-4	248	25	3	No. Carolina
71	Robinson, Glenn	DE	6-6	245	25	2	Oklia, St.
86	Scott, Freddie	WR	6-2	170	24	3	Amherst
27	Stevens, H.	KR-RB	5-5	165	26	4	Louisville
64	Taylor, David	T	6-5	257	27	4	Catawba
12	Troup, Bill (t)	QB	6-5	220	25	3	So. Carolina
67	Van Dune, Bob	G	6-4	245	24	3	Idaho
51	Varty, Mike	LB	6-2	225	24	3	No'western
20	Wallace, Jackie	S	6-3	197	25	3	Arizona
53	White, Stan	LB	6-1	220	27	5	Ohio St.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Novak, Ken	DT	6-7	275	21	Purdue
Simonini, Ed	LB	6-0	220	22	Tex. A&M
Lee, Ron	RB	6-4	215	22	West Va.
Shiver, Sanders	LB	6-2	220	21	C-Newman
Kirkland, Mike	QB	6-2	190	21	Arkansas
Thompson, R.	WR	6-0	175	21	Baylor
Levenick, Stu	T	6-4	255	23	Illinois
Baylor, Tim	DB	6-5	200	21	Morgan St.
Gibney, Rick	DT	6-4	260	22	Ga. Tech
Stavroff, Frank	K	6-0	180	22	Indiana
Cummings, J.	DE	6-5	230	21	Albany St.
Alexander, Gary	T	6-6	250	22	Clemson
Fuhrman, Mike	TE	6-4	230	24	Memphis St.
Ludwig, Steve	C	6-5	235	22	Miami (Fla.)

FREE AGENTS

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Allen, Bob	RB	6-1	203	23	Richmond
Hoover, Kim	WR	6-2	190	22	Maryland
Powell, Andy	DB	5-11	187	22	Morgan St.
Reid, Bobby	CB	6-0	175	21	Morgan St.
Righi, Pete	WR	5-11	185	22	Temple
Stempel, Jeff	TE	6-3	215	22	Temple
Teklit, Joe	LB	6-4	225	22	Temple
Zmudzin, Dennis	LB	6-2	215	21	Penn St.

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NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

PREDICTION 4th

A cool, clear-headed business decision made by Chuck Fairbanks just before the long-delayed NFL college draft last spring will determine the future of the Patriots for this season and a lot of others after it.

It was a decision Fairbanks wasn't particularly keen on making. He knew Jim Plunkett was one of the finest quarterbacks in the league, but he also knew that Plunkett and the Patriots had reached the point of no return with each other.

Ever since 1970, when New England had made him the first pick in the college draft, turning down a dozen offers to trade his rights for seasoned players and/or draft choices, Plunkett had been the Patriot pinwheel. But he had enough of the East and of the Pats. He wanted to return to his West Coast home territory, where he would be better able to care for his blind mother in San Jose, Calif. He also had suffered some discouraging injuries in New England in the last few years, suffering with an undermanned and rebuilding team.

STEVE GROGAN becomes No. 1 quarterback spot for New England.



He wanted out and he told Fairbanks as much. This season would have been his option year with the Pats. He would be gone in 1977 if New England didn't trade him now. In 1977 the Pats would get no compensation for him, since the Rozelle rule is now as obsolete as high-top cleats.

Faced with those realities, Fairbanks made his cold, clear-headed business decision. It may turn out to be a smashing consolation prize.

The San Francisco 49ers made the best offer for Plunkett and Fairbanks took it. The first installation was paid in the '76 draft, two first-round picks early in the choosing.

When Fairbanks finished selecting his first four players, here's what he had:

1a—Mike Haynes, the Arizona State corner back generally conceded to be the finest at his position available in the draft.

1b—Pete Brock, Colorado's 6-5, 253-pound center, generally conceded to be the finest offensive lineman in the draft.

1c—Tim Fox, Ohio State safety generally conceded to be the finest safety in the draft.

2—Ike Forte of Arkansas, probably the most underrated halfback in college football.

The Pats also received Tom Owens, a seasoned young quarterback who started often in 1974 for the 49ers. Next year the Pats will get the final installment, another first-round pick plus the 49ers' second-round choice.

It is the sort of material around which teams are rebuilt.

It won't be Owen who plays quarterback for the Pats this year, however. Not unless Fairbanks has misgauged his entire situation.

The man behind the center will be Steve Grogan, the country kid from Kansas State who kept the last season from becoming a complete shambles when Plunkett got hurt. Grogan, a rookie who

CHUCK FAIRBANKS, Coach.

Assistants: Larrye Weaver, Hank Bullough, Ron Erhardt, Red Miller, Charlie Summer, Rollie Dotsch, Tom Yewcic, Ray Perkins, John Polonchek.

was drafted in the fifth round, stepped into the lineup and passed for the bicentennial figure of 1976 yards, 11 touchdowns and 50.7 completion percentage.

He underwent neck surgery after the season finished, but the Pats seem confident he is ready to pick up where he left off.

Scoring points isn't the critical problem for New England. The Pats scored 21 or more points in half their games last year, not at all bad for a lower-echelon team. Included in that was a 31-point day against Dallas. The Cowboys won, 34-31.

Randy Vataha, Plunkett's chief collaborator all through college at Stanford and in his best years with the Patriots, was the leading pass catcher on the club last year with 46, which included six receptions for touchdowns.

But Grogan's big guy is more likely to be Russ Francis, the huge tight end who was spectacular as a rookie. Francis, the prototype for his position, caught 35 passes for a 18.2 average and four touchdowns. Look for him on future all-pro teams.

The other receiver last year was Darryl Stingley, once a first-

RANDY VATAHA paced the Pats in receptions with 46 in 1975 season.



round draft choice. He caught 21 passes for an 18-yard average but he could be pushed hard by big (6-5, 211-pounds) Steve Burks who averaged 26.3 yards on his half dozen catches as a rookie.

The running attack will center around fullback Sam Cunningham. Sam Bam's 666 yards led the team last year but it wasn't anything close to what he did in '74 before he broke his leg and while he still had Mack Herron as his running mate.

When Herron became persona non grata in New England, the job went to Andy Johnson, a converted college quarterback who had one sensational game against Baltimore. Johnson finished with 488 yards, a 4.2-yard per-carry average and an interesting future.

If Johnson doesn't keep improving, however, he could be susceptible to a challenge from Forte, who does everything well, including block. Also available are Allen Carter, better known as a 27.5-yard kickoff returner as a rookie; ex Bengal Joe Wilson, who comes off the injury list; quick Don Calhoun, rookie Stu Betts of Northern Michigan and Leon Crosswaite, who also missed the season due to a leg injury.

The offensive line could get a thorough shaking up in '76.

Guards John Hannah and Sam Adams seem firm. So does tackle Leon Gray. Beyond that, anything could happen.

Shelby Jordan was the rookie starter at the tackle opposite Gray when Tom Neville broke his ankle in training camp last year. But Jordan was sentenced to two years in the federal slammer last spring after being convicted of selling cocaine. Neville is back but he's 33.

To protect himself against the ravages of old age, Fairbanks dealt veteran corner back Ron Bolton to Cleveland for Bob McKay. McKay is a young veteran who once was considered a great prospect as a tackle. But he was shifted from tackle to guard with the Browns, signed in the WFL, recanted, was in and out of the lineup and generally unhappy. He may find himself in the new environment.

Brock also figures here. The

Pats think he can play anywhere in the offensive line. If they don't need him at tackle, he'll probably challenge incumbent Bill Lenkaitis, a 30-year-old journeyman. The big rookie also might be used to keep Hannah and Adams attentive. Steve Corbett, who can also play center, and Bill Dulac were the backup guards last year. The draft list also yielded a big center from Stanford, Todd Anderson.

Defensively the critical area is the secondary.

The seasoned corner backs are Bob Howard and Jim Massey. If Haynes can't beat them out, Fairbanks will submerge himself in Boston harbor.

The status of the incumbent safeties, Prentice McCray and John Sanders, is a little higher but Fox should move into one of the positions by opening day. Dick Conn, the ex Steeler, also is on the roster.

Hank Bullough, the assistant head coach, is in charge of the defensive line. He will have a large cast from which he is expected to create something respectable.

The key man is end Julius Adams, who seems to suffer foot injuries at the worst possible times. Healthy, he is one of the NFL's better players.

Ray Hamilton, very quick off the ball, is the middle guard until proven otherwise. There are times when Hamilton can disrupt



JULIUS ADAMS, DE, pressures Jets' JOE NAMATH in 1975 game.

SAM HUNT, 6-1, 240, is solid inside linebacker for the New England Patriots.





JOHN SMITH made good on all 33 of his extra point conversions.

an enemy offense. There are other times when he can be overpowered. Pete Cusick, the Ohio State strong boy, couldn't budge him last year. Cusick will try again.

There is an awful lot of competition for only three positions, since the Patriots play the "Oklahoma" defense—three down linemen and four linebackers.

Ex Bear Tony McGee had some good moments as an end in '75. Ex Steeler Craig Hanneman didn't make much of a dent. Jerry Patton, an excellent player for Buffalo and Philadelphia but released by Detroit last summer, joined the Pats late last season, out of shape. He could make a difference if he's back to his old form. Mel Lunsford and Martin Imhoff also are available.

Arthur Moore, who started in the past, missed the entire season due to a knee injury. He'll be back, along with drafted rookies like Greg Boyd of San Diego State, Perry Brooks of Southern, Nathan Bell of Tulane and Cliff Brown of Tuskegee.

The linebacking is the strongest part of the defense.

Steve Nelson, a second-year man, did a superb job in the middle. He had 43 more tackles than the next high man on the club, fellow inside linebacker Sam Hunt, also a sound player.

George Webster, the one time Houston star, was making a strong comeback with the Pats as an outside backer last year when he went down with a knee injury. It casts some doubt on his future. Ex Eagle Steve Zabel played the opposite side with Steve King also getting a lot of time in the lineup.

Kevin Reilly, Bob Geddes and Maury Damkroger all were on the roster last year but the principal challenge for the outside linebacker should come from Rod Shote, whose rookie year was ended after four games by a broken leg. Shoate should start in '76.

John Smith was 9 for 17 as a field goal kicker and made good all of his 33 extra points tries. Most of his field goal misses were from long distance. He's tough at reasonable range.

Mike Patrick averaged 38.8

1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Smith, 60 points on 33 XP, 9 field goals	22nd
RUSHING —Cunningham, 169 carries for 666 yds., 3.9 Avg., 6 TDs	12th
PASSING —Grogan, 139 of 274 attempts for 1976 yds., 11 TDs	11th
RECEIVING —Vataha, 46 receptions for 720 yds., 6 TDs	8th
INTERCEPTIONS —Bolton, 5 for 33 yds., 6.6 Avg.	15th
PUNTING —Patrick, 83 punts, 38.8 Avg., longest 62 yds.	10th
PUNT RETURNS —Stingley, 15 for 113 yds., 7.5 Avg.	10th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Carter, 32 for 879 yds., 27.5 Avg., 1 TD	2nd

Pre-Season Games

Aug. 1 N.Y. GIANTS (N)	
6 San Diego, Norman Okla (N)	
15 GREEN BAY (N)	
21 AT Atlanta (N)	
30 AT Cleveland (N)	
Sept. 5 PHILADELPHIA (N)	

	1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12	BALTIMORE	21-10
19	MIAMI	14-22
26	AT Pittsburgh	—
Oct. 3	OAKLAND	—
10	AT Detroit	—
18	N.Y. JETS (N)	28-30
24	AT Buffalo	31-45
31	AT Miami	7-20
Nov. 7	BUFFALO	14-34
14	AT Baltimore	21-34
21	AT N.Y. Jets	7-36
28	DENVER	—
Dec. 5	NEW ORLEANS	—
11	AT Tampa Bay	—

yards as a punter but Fairbanks seems satisfied. With Carter carrying for the kickoff return duties, Haynes and Fox should be able to upgrade the punt return department.

PATRIOTS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
85	Adams, Julius	DE	6-4	260	28	6	Tex. So'ern
61	Adams, Sam	G	6-3	252	27	5	Prairie View
82	Burks, Steve	WR	6-5	211	23	2	Arkansas St.
44	Calhoun, Don	RB	6-0	198	24	3	Kansas St.
21	Carter, Allen	RB/KR	5-11	208	23	2	So. Calif.
22	Conn, Dick	S	6-0	180	25	3	Georgia
62	Corbett, Steve	G	6-4	248	25	2	Boston Col.
35	Crosswhite, L.	RB	6-2	215	25	3	Oklahoma
39	Cunningham, S.	RB	6-3	224	26	4	So. Calif.
76	Cusick, Pete	NT	6-1	255	23	2	Ohio St.
51	Damkroger, M.	LB	6-2	230	24	3	Nebraska
68	Du Lac, Bill	G	6-4	260	25	3	East. Mich.
81	Francis, Russ	TE	6-6	240	23	2	Oregon
59	Geddes, Bob	LB	6-2	240	30	5	UCLA
70	Gray, Leon	OT	6-3	256	25	4	Jackson St.
14	Grogan, Steve	QB	6-4	200	23	2	Kansas St.
71	Hamilton, Ray	NT	6-1	245	25	4	Oklahoma
73	Hannah, John	G	6-2	265	25	4	Alabama
74	Hanneman, C.	DE	6-4	245	27	5	Oregon St.
24	Howard, Bob	CB	6-2	177	30	10	S. Diego St.
50	Hunt, Sam	LB	6-1	240	24	3	S. F. Austin
64	Imhoff, Martin	DE	6-6	256	26	4	S. Diego St.
32	Johnson, A. RB	PR	6-0	204	23	3	Georgia
63	Jordan, Shelby	OT	6-7	260	24	2	Wash. (MO)
52	King, Steve	LB	6-4	230	25	4	Tulsa
67	Lenkaitis, Bill	C	6-4	250	30	9	Penn St.
88	Lunsford, Mel	DE	6-3	250	26	4	Central St.
47	Marshall, Al	WR	6-2	190	25	2	Boise St.
47	Massey, Jim	CB	5-11	198	28	3	Linfield
34	McCray, Prentice	S	6-1	187	25	3	Arizona St.
78	McGee, Tony	DE	6-4	245	27	6	Bishop
75	McKay, Bob	OT	6-5	265	28	7	Texas
75	Moore, Arthur	NT	6-5	253	25	3	Tulsa
57	Nelson, Steve	LB	6-2	230	25	3	N. Dak. St.
77	Neville, Tom	OT	6-4	253	33	11	Miss. State
2	Owen, Tom	QB	6-1	194	24	2	Wichita St.
2	Patrick, Mike	P	6-0	213	23	3	Miss. State
72	Patton, Jerry	DE	6-3	265	30	5	Nebraska
55	Reilly, Kevin	LB	6-2	220	25	3	Villanova
25	Sanders, John	S	6-1	178	25	3	So. Dakota
56	Shoate, Rod	LB	6-1	211	23	2	Oklahoma
1	Smith, John	K	6-0	185	27	3	England
84	Stingley, D.	WR	6-0	195	24	4	Purdue
18	Vataha, R.	WR/PR	5-10	170	27	6	Stanford
90	Webster, George	LB	6-4	230	30	10	Michigan St.
23	Wilson, Joe	RB	5-10	210	26	3	Holy Cross
86	Windsor, Bob	TE	6-4	225	32	9	Kentucky
54	Zabel, Steve	LB	6-4	235	28	7	Oklahoma

ROOKIES

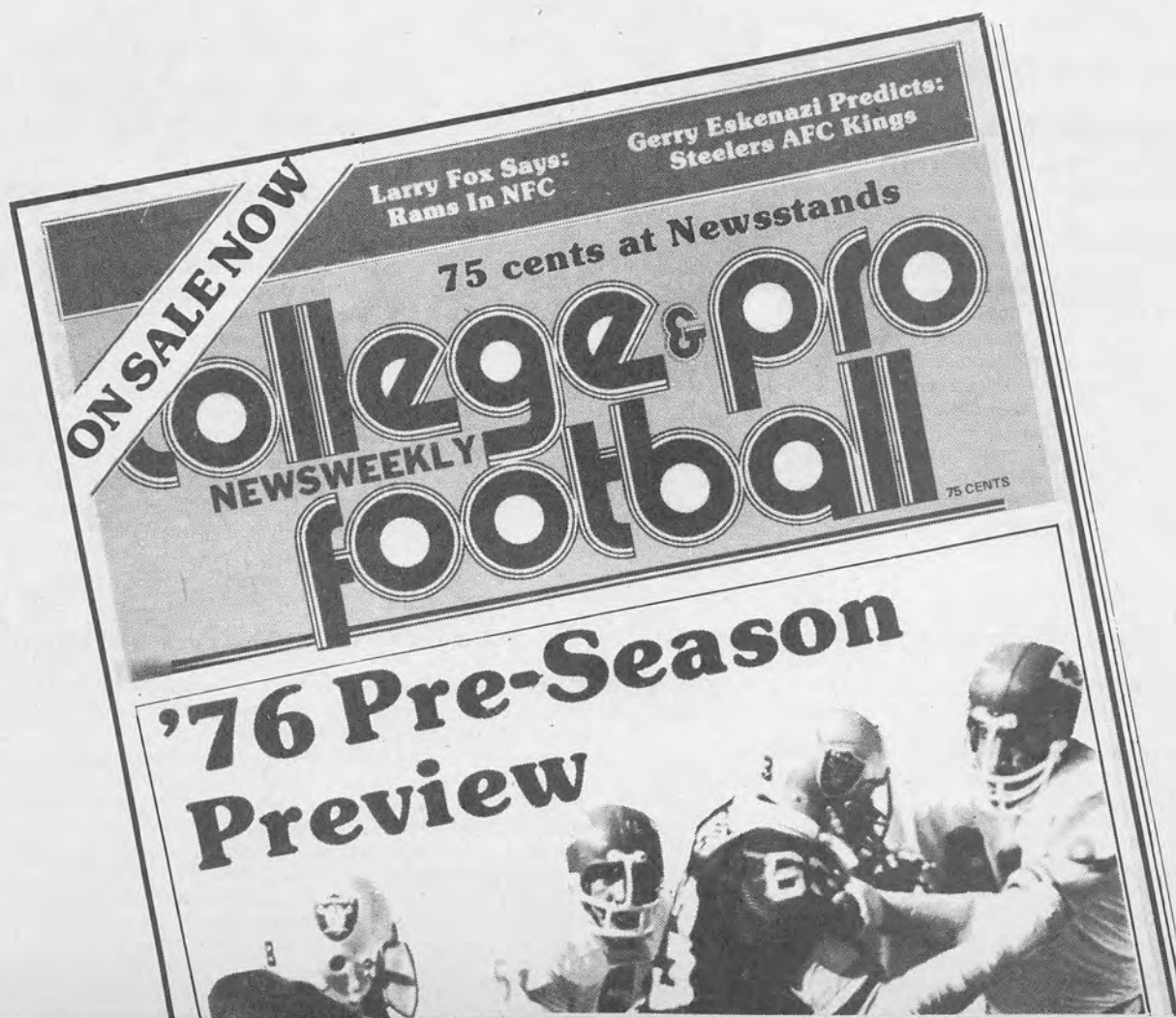
Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Anderson, Todd	C	6-5	250	23	Stanford
Beaudoin, Doug	DB	6-1	200	22	Minnesota
Bell, Nathan	DT	6-3	243	23	Tulane
Betts, Perry	DT	6-4	260	22	North. Mich.
Brock, Pete	C	6-5	253	22	Colorado
Brooks, Perry	DT	6-4	260	22	Southern
Boyd, Greg	DE	6-6	265	23	S. Diego St.
Brown, Cliff	DT	6-5	250	23	Tuskegee
Coleman, B.	WR	5-10	163	22	B-Cookman
Feacher, Ricky	WR	5-10	174	23	Miss. Valley
Forte, Ike	RB	6-0	196	23	Ohio St.
Fox, Tim	DB	5-11	186	22	Arkansas
Haynes, Mike	DB	6-2	189	22	Arizona St.
Jones, Jim	DB	6-1	182	22	Cent. Mich.
Quehl, David	WR	6-0	173	22	Holy Cross
Thomas, Donnie	LB	6-2	245	22	Indiana

FREE AGENTS

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
Armstead, W.	WR	6-2	201	24	1	Utah
Chandler, Al	TE	6-3	229	25	3	Oklahoma
Davis, Harrison	WR	6-3	215	24	2	Virginia
Hyde, Glenn	OT	6-2	250	25	1	Pittsburgh
Ilgenfritz, Mark	DE	6-4	255	24	2	Vanderbilt
Johns, Skip	RB	5-10	225	24	1	C-Newman
Lake, Richy	RB	6-1	223	26	1	Georgia
Lavin, Rich	TE	6-4	234	24	1	West. Ill.
McCartney, Ed	TE	6-3	230	24	1	N.E. Okla.
McGraw, Mike	LB	6-2	223	22	1	Wyoming
Mayo, Ron	TE	6-3	223	25	3	Morgan St.
Means, Dave	DE	6-4	235	24	2	SE Mo. St.
Morgan, Dennis	RB	5-11	205	24	3	West. Ill.
Murphy, Greg	LB	6-2	230	23	1	Penn St.
Nessel, John	OT	6-6	259	23	1	Penn St.
Nystrom, Lee	OT	6-5	258	24	2	Macalester
Oliver, Greg	RB	6-0	205	27	3	Trinity
Payton, Doug	OT	6-2	257	24	1	Colorado
Pringle, Alan	K	6-0	190	24	2	Rice
Rackley, Jim	RB	5-11	197	24	1	Fla. A&M
Romaniszyn, J.	LB	6-1	220	24	3	Edinboro
Rudnick, Tim	DB	5-10	185	24	2	Notre Dame
Shuman, Tom	QB	6-2	194	22	1	Penn St.
Sturt, Fred	G	6-4	255	25	2	Bowl. Green
Williams, M.	RB	5-10	208	25	1	N.E. La.

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NEW YORK JETS

PREDICTION 5th

Lou Holtz looks like an assistant professor of animal husbandry at Iowa State University. Or the director of the Shenandoah Valley Apple Festival. Or a pediatrician in Washington Courthouse, O.

The point is, he doesn't look like a football coach.

The New York Jets, who hired Holtz to pull them out of the NFL quicksand, hope that looks are deceiving. After all, what does a football coach look like, anyway?

Holtz departed from North Carolina State looking for a challenge. The Jets will provide it. They may not lead the league in problems, but they are among the principal contenders.

The scholarly-looking blond inherits a team which compiled the third-worst defensive record in the history of the league. Things got so bad with the defensive unit that late in the season, tackle Ed Galigher socked linebacker Steve Reece after the two became embroiled in an argument on the bench during a game.

Joe Namath, in the depths of post-season despair, issued a "this-team-can't-win" statement and asked to be traded. There were no takers for that invitation. It appears that many NFL teams agree with the assessment that Joe Willie is now "a \$500,000-a-year statue who throws interceptions."

There also is an undercurrent of racial unrest among the Jets, to top things off.

Holtz has been asked to make sunny weather out of all that.

"Why did we hire Lou?" asks Al Ward, the Jets general manager whose task it was to find a new coach. "We hired him because he was the most impressive candidate we talked to, the best man available."

A successful college coach at William and Mary and North Carolina State, Holtz is decep-

tive. Beneath that down-home, gentle exterior, lies a flinty man who takes a direct path to his goals.

As soon as he took the New York job, he became a virtual recluse at the Jets' headquarters at Hofstra University, putting in 16-hour days as he viewed, with discriminating eye, the team's veteran players on film.

He created a new, businesslike atmosphere, with outsiders excluded from the locker room. In the "old" days, the place was overrun by celebrities, politicians, children of celebrities and politicians, friends and agents of the players and, of course, Joe Namath's entourage. If you don't have official business with the Jets, you don't get in any more.

Namath will no longer be given such a special status.

"If Joe wants to play for us again and help us, fine," said Holtz shortly after taking the job. "If he doesn't, we'll find someone else."

The search for "someone else" began in the college draft. The Jets made a quarterback their No. 1 draft choice for the first time since 1965, when they chose Namath.

Ironically, the heir apparent is from Namath's school, the University of Alabama. He is Richard Todd, the cover boy on Street & Smith's College Football Yearbook for 1975.

Todd was a wishbone quarterback at Alabama for most of his career, which indicated he was a good athlete who could run and do a lot of other things. But it said little about his passing. But then he started opening up late in his senior year, opening the eyes of the pro scouts. Those eyes popped when he put on an impressive show in the Senior Bowl.

The Jets scouted him extensively all season long.

"He has charisma. He's unselfish," says the admiring Holtz. "He's so big that when I first saw

LOU HOLTZ, Coach.

Assistants: Bob Fry, Walt Michaels, Jim Champion, Joe Gardi, Dan Henning, Burley Crowe, Jerry Kirk.



JOE NAMATH asked to be traded from Jets, but there were no takers.

him I thought he was a tight end."

The question is how soon will Todd be ready?

If Namath plays like he did last year, it can't be too soon. Joe was the 13th ranked passer in the AFC last year. He was intercepted 28 times. The New York pass protection was nothing like it used to be, but Namath was hitting the dirt long before the pass rushers got to him.

It's doubtful if Holtz would want to watch that again, even if his employers are paying Namath a maharaja's price to stay in uniform.

But now the master plan is for Todd to learn from Namath for a year or so before he is given the controls.

The longtime anchor of the offensive line, Winston Hill, will be 35 before the season ends. Randy Rasmussen, the top guard, is 31. Guard Gary Puetz and tackle Robert Woods are much younger but haven't given evi-



JEROME BARKUM snared 36 passes for 549 yards and a 15.3 average.

dence yet that they could become top-rank players. Center Wayne Mulligan is a journeyman.

None of the reserves, tackle Gordie Browne, guard Darrell Austin or center-guard Joe Fields, made much of a move to challenge the incumbents last year.

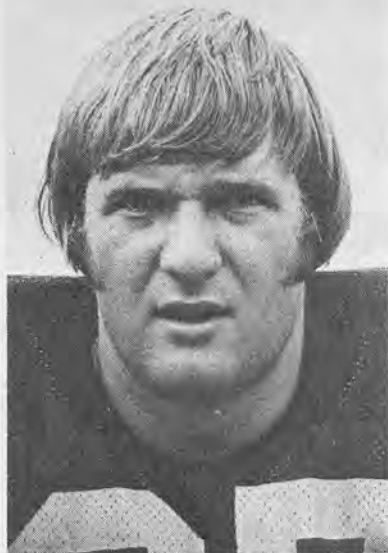
Most of the high draft choices were devoted to other needs, but Holtz may have gotten lucky in round five when he took Steve King, a big guy from Michigan who might have been a first-round pick if he hadn't been injured in his senior year. He could win a job at tackle or guard. Southern California guard Joe Davis was on the draft list, along with West Virginia center Al Gluchoski.

The Jets' running game was a question mark until they signed Ed Marinaro who played out his option with the Vikings. He takes the place of John Riggins who played out his option and signed with the Redskins.

Emerson Boozer finished the season as Riggins' running mate, mainly through default.

The default came mostly because Carl Garrett, a large talent, is equally talented in the lack of discipline department.

Boozer, at 33, retired and Gar-



STEVE KING is a 6-5, 245-pound rookie who could win job with Jets.

rett was traded to Oakland.

Marinaro has ability as a runner and pass receiver. He is an effective blocker and will provide pass protection Namath must have.

Behind them are ex Steeler Steve Davis, Jazz Jackson and Bob Gresham, who burned brightly last summer, then fizzled. The draft brings James Richards of Florida, James Godwin of Fayetteville and a phenomenal little ground gainer from Utah State, Louie Giammona.

There is nothing wrong with the Jet receivers.

Richard Caster caught more passes than any tight end in the AFC last year, 47 for 820 yards and a 17.4-yard per-catch average. Jerome Barkum, the big wide receiver, caught 36 for 549 yards and a 15.3 average. Those two are a load for any secondary.

Little Eddie Bell caught 17 for a 17.2 average. Riggins, a frequent target, averaged an impressive 12.1 on 30 catches.

David Knight, who played for Holtz at William and Mary, could press Bell again. Lou also drafted his best North Carolina State receiver, Don Buckey, and Don's twin brother, quarterback Dave, as well as wide receiver Ronnie Moore of VMI and tight end Darwin Willie of Tulane.

Defensively the Jets were a disaster in '75.

Charley Winner traded with



RICHARD CASTER led AFC tight ends with 47 receptions last year.

New Orleans for Billy Newsome and with Baltimore for Jim Bailey in a couple of moves which he felt would put some oomph in his weak pass rush. The end result was that the rush was weaker than ever. Their 19 sacks were the least, by far, in the American Conference.

The Jets, in fact, were last in the entire NFL in defense against the rush, second-worst against the pass and worst overall.

Surprisingly, Holtz, after watching films of last year's lack of action, thinks the front four is the one defensive area which can be salvaged.

"I think our front four is a decent one, if it's used properly," he says. "Folks think Billy Newsome was a disappointment last year but I think Billy is a good football player. We just have to get him out of the rut of making an inside pass rush all the time."

Richard Neal will line up opposite Newsome at end. Ed Gallagher and Carl Barzilasukas are the tackles. Barzo must make the biggest comeback of all, back to his rookie form of '74 from a horrible '75, if the New Yorkers are to improve defensively.

Mark Lomas returns from the injury list to push the ends. Bai-

ley, who lost his tackle spot was traded to Cleveland. The only drafted rookie is Ken State's Larry Faulk, taken in the seventh round.

The only thoughts about the Jet linebackers are dark ones.

Holtz dealt one of the incumbents, Steve Reese, to Tampa Bay last spring. The other two, Godwin Turk and Richard Wood, won't keep their jobs on last year's performances. Jamie Rivers, normally the starting middle man, missed eight games due to injury but his work in the other six didn't impress Holtz.

Walt Michaels, Weeb Ewbank's defensive co-ordinator in more successful seasons, was brought back by the new coach to take charge of the sagging unit. Michaels is not a man to be satisfied with slipshod work.

There may be a variety of remedies. If Penn State's Greg Buttle, a third-round draft pick, shows anything at all he should start. Bob Martin, a small but skilled youngster from Nebraska, is another possibility. Al Atkinson is 33 now and didn't play a game last year due to injury, but Michaels may use him if he demonstrates he's the best available. Ken Bernich, the big kid from Auburn, was brought in for the last five games last year after flunking trials in San Diego and Green Bay. He did well on the special teams, which should earn him a look.

There should be a scramble for the corner back assignments. The best bet is with a rookie, second-round draftee Shafer Suggs of Ball State.

Veterans Roscoe Word, George Hoey, Delles Howell and Rich Sowell aren't the type who take a team to the playoffs.

Strong safety Burgess Owen is still the classiest defensive back the Jets possess. The coaches think Phil Wise can be a heavy contributor if they can keep him healthy.

Pat Leahy, the former St. Louis U. soccer, provided better-than-average field goaling, 13 successes in 21 tries. Greg Gantts' punting average 36.5, was the worst in the NFL. Rich Faulk of San Francisco U. was drafted to challenge him.



CARL BARZILAUSKAS, above, is coming off poor sophomore season at defensive tackle; ED GALIGHER mans the other DT job for Jets.



1975 LEADERS AFC RATINGS

SCORING —Leahy, 66 points on 27 XP, 13 field goals	17th
RUSHING —Riggins, 238 carries for 1005 yds., 4.2 Avg., 8 TDs	5th
PASSING —Namath, 157 of 326 attempts for 2286 yds., 15 TDs	13th
RECEIVING —Caster, 47 receptions for 820 yds., 4 TDs	7th
INTERCEPTIONS —Owens, 3 for 3 yds., 1.0 Avg.	41st
PUNTING —Gantts, 59 punts, 36.5 Avg., longest 71 yds.	13th
PUNT RETURNS —Piccone, 18 for 74 yds., 4.1 Avg.	12th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Piccone, 26 for 637 yds., 24.5 Avg.	6th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 At St. Louis (N)
Aug.	9 N.Y. GIANTS (N)
	13 OAKLAND (N)
	21 At Houston (N)
	28 WASHINGTON (N)
Sept.	4 AT Pittsburgh (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

Sept.	12 AT Cleveland
	19 AT Denver
	26 AT Miami
Oct.	3 AT San Francisco
	10 BUFFALO
	18 AT New England (N)
	24 BALTIMORE
	31 AT Buffalo
Nov.	7 MIAMI
	14 TAMPA BAY
	21 NEW ENGLAND
	28 AT Baltimore
Dec.	5 WASHINGTON
	12 CINCINNATI

1975 Scores

—	—
21-29	—
23-24	—
30-28	—
28-45	—
14-42	—
0-43	—
—	—
36-7	—
19-52	—
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STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL

JETS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
62	Atkinson, Al	LB	6-2	230	33	11	Villanova
67	Austin, Darrell	G-T	6-2	250	25	2	So. Carolina
83	Barkum, Jerome	WR	6-4	212	26	5	Jackson St.
77	Barzilauskas, C.	DT	6-6	280	25	3	Indiana
7	Bell, Ed	WR	5-10	160	28	7	Idaho St.
53	Bernich, Ken	LB	6-2	250	24	2	Auburn
86	Brister, Willie	TE	6-4	236	24	3	Southern U.
79	Browne, Gordie	T	6-5	265	24	3	Boston Col.
33	Burns, Bob	RB	6-3	212	24	2	Georgia
29	Capria, Carl	S	6-3	185	24	3	Purdue
88	Caster, Richard	TE	6-5	228	27	7	Jackson St.
35	Davis, Steve	RB	6-1	210	26	5	Delaware St.
55	Ebersole, John	LB	6-3	227	27	7	Penn St.
65	Fields, Joe	C	6-2	240	23	2	Widener
85	Galigher, Ed	DT	6-4	253	25	5	UCLA
8	Gantt, Greg	P-K	5-11	188	24	2	Alabama
95	George, Tim	WR	6-5	207	24	3	C-Newman
36	Gresham, Bob	RB	5-11	195	28	6	West Va.
75	Hill, Winston	T	6-4	280	34	14	Tex. So'ern
49	Hoey, George	CB-FS	5-10	182	29	6	Michigan
20	Howell, Delles	CB	6-4	200	28	7	Grambling
43	Jackson, C.	RB	5-8	167	24	3	West. Ky.
11	Jones, J.J.	QB	6-1	180	24	2	Fisk
82	Knight, David	WR	6-1	175	25	4	Wm. & Mary
5	Leahy, Pat	K	6-0	200	25	3	St. Louis U.
57	Lewis, Richard	LB	6-2	215	26	5	Portland St.
84	Lomas, Mark	DE	6-4	250	28	6	No. Arizona
	Marinero, Ed	RB	6-2	212	26	5	Cornell
50	Mulligan, Wayne	C	6-3	250	29	7	Clemson
12	Namath, Joe	QB	6-2	200	33	12	Alabama
81	Neal, R.	DE-DT	6-3	260	28	8	Southern
87	Newsome, Billy	DE	6-5	252	28	8	Grambling
22	Owens, B.	CB-S	5-9	175	27	4	Miami
89	Piccone, Lou	B-WR	5-9	175	27	3	W. Liberty
78	Puetz, Garry	G-C	6-3	265	24	4	Valparaiso
66	Rasmussen, R.	G	6-2	267	31	10	Kearney St.
54	Rivers, Jamie	LB	6-2	245	30	9	Bowl. Green
94	Small, Eldridge	WR	6-1	190	27	4	Texas A&M
46	Sowells, Rich	CB	6-0	181	27	6	Alcorn A&M
38	Taylor, Ed	S-CB	6-0	170	23	2	Memphis St.
56	Turk, Godwin	LB	6-3	230	25	3	Southern
27	Wise, Phil	S	6-0	190	27	6	Omaha
18	Woodall, Al	QB	6-5	194	30	7	Duke
58	Wood, Richard	LB	6-2	225	23	2	So. Calif.
72	Woods, Robert	T	6-3	255	26	4	Tenn. St.
47	Word, Roscoe	CB	5-11	170	24	3	Jackson St.

ROOKIES

* FREE AGENTS

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
	Anderson, J.*	RB-WR	6-0	188	23	Washington
63	Baker, Buck	T	6-4	260	27	Georgia
	Bolick, Bob*	G	6-3	253	23	G-Webb
	Brock, Paul*	DT	6-2	240	21	Tulane
	Brown, Jere*	LB	6-2	225	24	Villanova
10	Buckey, Dave	QB	5-11	162	22	N.C. State
91	Buckey, Don	WR	5-11	175	22	N.C. State
51	Buttle, Greg	LB	6-3	227	22	Penn St.
	Chadband, J.C.*	RB	5-11	202	22	Idaho
	Chaney, John*	T	6-4	273	23	Jacksonville
	Cleveland, C.	WR	6-4	236	25	Alabama
	Cooper, Bob*	P-K	6-1	180	24	Tampa
61	Davis, Joe	G	6-3	254	22	So. Calif.
	DeMartini, J.*	T	6-4	273	22	UCLA
	England, M.*	G	6-1	263	22	Pacific
74	Faulk, Larry	DE-DT	6-3	260	22	Kent St.
3	Faulk, Rick	P-K	6-3	180	22	San Fran. St.
	Franklin, J.*	RB-S	5-11	182	23	Maryland
	Gaines, Clark*	RB	5-11	195	22	Wake Forest
45	Giamonna, L.	RB-KR	5-9	175	23	Utah St.
52	Gluchoski, A.	C	6-2	235	21	West Va.
25	Godwin, James	RB	5-11	203	22	Fayetteville
	Grant, Ike*	RB	5-9	210	23	Ala. State
	Green, Mike*	C-G	6-2	247	22	W. Carolina
	Holmes, R.*	RB	5-10	208	23	Edinboro
	Howard, Harry*	CB	6-0	195	26	Ohio St.
	Hughes, Leroy*	S	5-9	188	23	Maryland
	King, Ray*	LB	6-3	219	22	Iowa St.
70	King, Steve	T	6-5	245	23	Michigan
59	Martin, Bob	LB	6-1	208	22	Nebraska
	McCluskey, M.*	S	6-0	181	23	Brig. Young
	McDaniel, W.*	DT	6-2	245	22	Ga. Tech
	Mills, Marshall*	WR	6-1	195	23	West Va.
90	Moore, R.	WR-KR	5-9	151	22	V.M.I.
	Moss, Robert*	LB	6-4	220	23	Jackson St.
	Owens, Mike*	C	6-3	249	21	Missouri
	Pawlewicz*	RB-TE	6-2	210	23	Wm. & Mary
54	Pillers, L.	DE	6-3	244	23	Alcorn St.
	Poole, Steve*	LB	6-1	229	22	Tennessee
31	Richards, J.	RB-KR	5-10	216	22	Florida
48	Schroy, Ken	S	6-1	195	23	Maryland
80	Scott, James	WR	6-1	194	24	Henderson
	Shubert, Ed*	LB	6-2	221	24	Drexel
	Sonnie, Wally*	LB	6-1	224	22	Ohio U.
	Stock, Jim*	LB	6-2	216	22	Notre Dame
	Strayhorn, K.*	RB	5-9	201	22	E. Carolina
23	Suggs, Shafer	S-CB	6-1	194	23	Ball St.
14	Todd, Richard	QB	6-2	201	22	Alabama
	Welles, Lincoln*	P	5-11	175	24	Bloomburg
	Whitacre, John*	T	6-5	268	23	Washington
	Williams, G.	CB	6-0	185	23	Grambling
86	Willie, Darwin	TE	6-2	240	22	Tulane
	Wilhelm, Tom*	RB	5-11	218	22	Akron
	Wyatt, Robert*	RB	6-0	218	26	No. Tex. St.
64	Wysock, Joe	G	6-3	262	24	Miami

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NFC FINAL-1975

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pct.
Minnesota	12	2	0	.857
Detroit	7	7	0	.500
Chicago	4	10	0	.286
Green Bay	4	10	0	.286

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct.
Los Angeles	12	2	0	.857
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357
Atlanta	4	10	0	.286
New Orleans	2	12	0	.143

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct.
St. Louis	11	3	0	.786
*Dallas	10	4	0	.714
Washington	8	6	0	.571
N.Y. Giants	5	9	0	.357
Philadelphia	4	10	0	.286

*Wild Card For Playoffs

Playoffs

St. Louis	0	9	7	7-23
Los Angeles	14	14	0	7-35
Dallas	0	7	0	7-17
Minnesota	0	7	0	7-14



By Jerry Green

Sports columnist for Detroit News, Jerry Green is veteran observer of the National Football League activity.

COWBOYS, RAMS AND LIONS RATE TOP BILLING IN DAFFY CHAOTIC YEAR AHEAD

PREDICTIONS

Eastern Division

1. Dallas
2. St. Louis
3. Washington
4. New York
5. Philadelphia

Western Division

1. Los Angeles
2. San Francisco
3. Atlanta
4. New Orleans
5. Seattle

Central Division

1. Detroit
2. Minnesota
3. Green Bay
4. Chicago

This is perhaps how it was when President Lincoln won the war.

Victory freed the slaves. Emancipation also brought out the scalawags and carpetbaggers.

Pro football's enslaved free agents are now truly free. They are free by courtroom decree of judges in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Minneapolis.

The revolution is ended without bloodshed. The proletariat masses in their moleskins and shoulder pads and plastic helmets have triumphed. The bourgeoisie, in its tailored leisure suits with the wives in minks, has succumbed.

The Rozelle Rule, that binding medieval chain, is passé. Even the imperious Pete Rozelle has yielded though remaining dubious about the survival of the Republic.

And who should apply the crusher, the final deathly blow to the Rozelle Rule of Thumb of Equitable Compensation? It was none other than George Allen himself. Allen, the Nixonian establishmentarian, the original scalawag-carpetbagger of the NFL.

One Saturday last spring Allen announced that the Washington Redskins had signed Calvin Hill, a running back of importance. Calvin Hill had fled

from the Dallas Cowboys to the WFL. After the demise of the WFL, Hill remained the NFL property of the Cowboys, in accord with then prevailing regulations. He was one of those technical free agents, not entirely free without compensation to his owner.

But alas, when George Allen signed Calvin Hill Pete Rozelle did nothing. Rozelle sat on his hands, obedient to the courtroom judges in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Minneapolis. He determined that Washington would not have to award a body to Dallas for signing the liberated Calvin Hill.

Indeed, Rozelle's office announced in an immortal proclamation: "In this and subsequent such signings in the Rozelle Rule has been suspended."

And thus it was. The Audible, organ of the NFL Players Association, bannered the milestone in blood red capital letters: "FREEDOM IS ACHIEVED."

Rozelle's inaction triggered an abundance of player movement, most of it involving the beleaguered NFC.

The chattels no longer were enchained.

Larry Csonka, like Hill a WFL profiteer, broke his link with the Miami Dolphins. He transferred to the New York Giants for an

estimated \$2 million in cash and goods in a skillfully negotiated demarche.

John Gilliam, who also had flitted through the WFL, skittered from Minnesota to the Atlanta Falcons.

Paul Warfield rejected overtures from NFC clubs to make an all-AFC move from Miami to Cleveland.

George Allen, delighted to have Hill worked more important leg- erdemain. He plucked John Riggins, a Thousand-Yard runner with the Jets, to run in an all-defector backfield with Hill. He also snared articulate Jean Fugett from the Cowboys.

LARRY CSONKA, back from WFL, gives Giants' attack big boost.



NFL National Conference

In injured response, perhaps, the NFC champion Cowboys opted to attempt the reconstruction of Duane Thomas, the self-styled mute. Thomas most recently had been the NFL property of the Redskins and George Allen. They had failed in a reconstruction attempt.

The last time Thomas was heard to open his yap for any sweet talk was a number of years ago. This was near the end of his original enslavement with the Cowboys. Thomas characterized his coach, Tom Landry, as "a plastic man, no man at all."

Now Landry has elected to make defense of the NFC championship with Duane Thomas in his backfield.

This time Landry was, if not silent, bland in his explanation of the reacquisition of the penitent Thomas. Said Tom: "If Duane can return to the running and pass-catching form he showed when he was with us before, we

can do yet more things out of our backfield."

The suspension of the Rozelle Rule produced a daft, chaotic element to pro football 1976.

There were additional movements as the spring passed on.

In the long-range view, no more Rozelle Rule means less predictability. Downtrodden teams will be free to be as grabby as the liberated superstars. Weak spots can be plugged, at an expensive price, with immediate quality. The certainty is that in future years there will be more players snapping the chains, chattels no more.

It could, despite the presaging grievous howls of the establishment, heighten the competitive excitement of the sport.

To be sure, the actively grabbing NFC needs something to spike its prestige. The NFC has become, on the record, a losers' conference.

This past June pro football

celebrated (if that is the proper word) its 10th anniversary of the merger. Ten years ago the war ended. The NFL, contemptuously haughty, merged with the American Football League into one tight, giant conglomerate. Inevitably, reflecting the social mood of the era, the player revolution began.

With merger and a common draft, there came a Super Bowl. The old NFL, now basically the NFC, won the first two. The NFC succeeded in winning but one of the subsequent eight Super Bowls. The record is woeful and embarrassing. NFC clubs have won only three of 10 Super Bowls now. NFC clubs have lost seven of the last eight. NFC clubs have lost the last four.

When, if ever, will the NFC gain parity with the AFC?

That is a sorry, hollow joke about a reversal of power in the decade following the merger.

The Emancipation Proclama-

GEORGE ALLEN likes free agents.



TOM LANDRY wades through flock of cameramen after Dallas win over Rams.



tion could hasten the NFC's return to parity.

The NFC, for '76, made three noteworthy acquisitions of AFC legends.

The Giants' grab of Csonka was the most prominent. Csonka is a glamor name in an area charmed by the Histrionics of Joe Namath of the Jets.

The San Francisco 49ers, failing these last few years since John Brodie left to receive his dotage, traded with the New England Patriots for Jim Plunkett. In the AFC's ascent to dominance, it possessed a near monopoly of the better young quarterbacks in the sport.

Pittsburgh had Terry Bradshaw, Oakland had Kenny Stabler, Miami had Bob Griese, Cincinnati had Kenny Anderson, Houston had Dan Pastorini, Buffalo had Joe Ferguson, Baltimore had Bert Jones. New York had its no-longer young quarterback Guru, Namath.

And New England had Plunkett.

The NFC had, mostly, tired-arm graybeards. They were venerable men with many scrapbook clippings. But they lacked the brio of the AFC quarterbacks.

Now the 49ers—and the NFC—have Plunkett. His capabilities could be matched with those of Bradshaw and Griese—Super Bowl victors.

Maybe it is the start of a trend the NFC's first step upward toward the old eminence.

The third AFC legend to go NFC was not a player, but a coach. Jaunty, debonair, preening Henry Stram had come with the founding of the AFL, eventually to become the AFC. Two years ago the Kansas City Chiefs, for whom he won a Super Bowl and nearly established a dynasty, dispatched Stram into exile.

After a year of expert analysis in the broadcast booth, Stram took his waistcoat and hooked on as coach of the New Orleans Saints. He has a monumental task, building an erratic, sloppy NFC franchise into something worthwhile.

But he brings some class into the NFC.

The normal NFL coach lasts about three years, actually slight-

ly less on the average. The coach is a marionette swinging on the owner's whim. Stram survived 15 seasons with the Dallas-Kansas City AFL-AFC franchise. Now he goes to a club with a volcanic record of firing four coaches in nine years.

San Francisco and Philadelphia have been death on coaches too. They've changed again. Monte Clark, from Don Shula's staff at Miami, replaced Dick Nolan, who'd been a winner, with the 49ers. Dick Vermeil, who'd won the Rose Bowl at UCLA, succeeded Mike McCormack in the latest switch by the Eagles.

It is an expansion year and the NFC was awarded the prize Seattle location for its Western Division. The new Seahawks hired Jack Patera, the defense master of the Vikings to be their first coach.

In this first year of daffiness and chaos, most of the same old teams should vie for the Super Bowl playoffs.

Dallas could not win its Eastern Division last year. But the Cowboys, largely rebuilt, matured gradually and with a wildcard playoff permit survived to win the conference championship. They should this year win in the East, challenged by a stronger club in St. Louis. Allen's Redskins, victimized by curious officiating, declined last year. They now are placed in longshot status.

To get to Super Bowl X, where they lost to the Steelers, the Cowboys had to club the Los Angeles Rams in the NFC championship game. The Rams of Chuck Knox figured to be the best of the NFC clubs last year. Probably they were, until that final Sunday when they were brutalized 37-7 by the Cowboys.

The Rams' problem was at quarterback. James Harris was not able to deliver after his late-season injury. Los Angeles still must be considered the leading 1976 contender for the NFC title. It has the most talent, the only NFC club in a top echelon category with the AFC power clubs at Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Oakland.

But the Rams' quarterback situation must be resolved: Harris vs. the now-tested Ron Jawor-



HANK STRAM, ex-Chiefs coach, has a big task in rebuilding the Saints.

ski. The Rams should have few problems sweeping again in the West, even with Plunkett at San Francisco and a savvy Steve Bartkowski at Atlanta.

There is a gut pick in the NFC Central, dominated for nearly a decade now by the Vikings. The Vikings have grown aged and perhaps discontented. Detroit sits and waits, gradually building itself with the draft, doing nothing startling. The Lions, mano to mano, managed to dump the Vikings once in each of the last two seasons. Detroit has finished second seven years in succession and seems content about it.

But there have been outstanding drafts. There is an emotional coach in Rick Forzano and there are some impassioned athletes.

The vibes tingle that at last the Lions can bypass the Vikings to win in the Central.

The Rams, at the end, should outmuscle the others to win in the infirm NFC. They should have last year. This time they ought to make it to play in Super Bowl XI before their own people in the Rose Bowl at Pasadena.

Even with emancipation, the freedom that has been achieved, it will take the NFC some time to gain parity with the AFC. The Raiders will make it to a Super Bowl any year now . . . and the thought is they will this season to play and defeat the Rams to continue the mastery of the AFC.

Maybe the judges or Pete Rozelle can think up a new rule to let the NFC win once in a while.

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The speeches are cast in every training camp on the scorching days in July when the athletes gather to melt flesh for the new football season.

The welcoming phrases are so constant they could be mimeographed by the league and distributed in schooltext format.

The head coach stands alongside a blackboard. He is flanked by a squadron of assistants. Some are gray and paunched. They all wear polo shirts and shorts. Seated in overflowed classroom chairs are 75 meaty, sweating, hulking men. Each could repeat the coach's words from memory.

Some are callow rookies, who sit on the fringes. They are unnerved. But each is promised an honest chance to make the club. The others are veterans. They are smug and certain. The coach tells them he expects them to bust it. No positions are set on this club.

The coach then lists the fines for skipping out after curfew and being so unsophisticated as to get caught.

One year ago in July Tom Landry rose before the Dallas Cowboys in Thousand Oaks, Calif. He talked from the prepared text. Landry is a man devoid of emotion. He spoke in a Texas-tinged dialect to a club which had been 8-6 in 1974. It had missed qualifying for the playoffs for the first time in nine years. The team was on the down cycle which imprisons organizations when they become decrepit.

Landry's team was enduring radical changes. There would be need for patience. There would be trial and error.

Landry droned onward with his camp monologue.

"This team has lost some outstanding players. Bob Lilly. Calvin Hill. Cornell Green, Bob Hayes. Walt Garrison. Of course, we have to rebuild. But I hope

by the middle of the year we'll be a pretty good football team and finish strong."

Thus Landry concluded his prepared text. With the usual coach's blather that the team will rebuild, improve, become strong.

The Cowboys astonished even themselves with their 10-4 success.

They started training camp this year at Thousand Oaks as reigning champions of the NFC.

With Roger Staubach fielding rolling footballs like a shortstop, they upset Minnesota in the playoffs. It took a final-seconds, half-field bomb from Landry's shotgun formation. But the wildcard Cowboys advanced to Los Angeles. Then they smashed to smithereens the favored Rams, and went to the Super Bowl. Indeed, they carried the Steelers

to the very last play of Super Bowl X before succumbing.

Landry, the plastic man, explained the phenomenon of the Cowboys in the hysterical days of the prelude to Super Bowl X.

"Our rookies are the reason we're here in the Super Bowl," Landry said. It was a typical statement, without a tear nor a smile. "Our veterans said, 'Our All-Pros are gone.' We'd had the retirements and in addition traded John Niland. Our remaining guys said, 'We're not through.'"

"But we never had rookies like this before. In our rookies' scrimmage at training camp, they were hitting like machine guns popping. The veterans saw we had good rookies and played better and that's the influence our rookies had on this team."

The Cowboys played the Super

RAY WRIGHT (70) does his job well as offensive tackle for the Cowboys, providing protection for ROGER STAUBACH, star QB.



Bowl with 14 rookies on the 43-man roster. They lost, but salvaged pride.

The total philosophy of winning in pro football begins with the replenishment concept. Some clubs are deeply faithful to the draft. Others mix their replenishment scheme. They supplement the draft with major trades. Only one, George Allen's Redskins, regards the draft as superfluous and tries to win by trades and by culling and resurrecting.

The Cowboys are a franchise entirely dependent upon the draft. But to win and keep winning in that manner, a team must be more skillful in its drafting than all competitors. The Cowboys are with Gil Brandt in charge of their procurement.

Every year their record sticks them at the far end of the draft rotation. But every year they have additional choices for excess talent dealt away. And every year the Cowboys can use these additional choices for treasures like Ed (Too Tall) Jones and Randy White. And down deep, too, the Cowboys draft more brilliantly than the others in the later rounds.

Thus, they have played in the playoffs nine of the past 10 years. It is the reason they rebounded so rapidly from one year of mediocrity to play in the Super Bowl.

But this year have forfeited one element. They will not be disregarded now by the teams they play each Sunday.

"We won't surprise many people this time because when you come out of the Super Bowl everyone expects you to be as good as you were getting there," Landry said in 1976. "So I feel the opposition will be much stronger in our games.

"It will be tough to attain the same success. But this doesn't mean that it's impossible for us to get there again.

"The real key is whether you can take 14- and 13-year veterans like Lee Roy Jordan and Mel Renfro and bring them back for another good year. Or do you have to replace them with younger guys if the veterans can't perform at the same level because of their age?"

The offense is quite potent. In

what began as a rebuilding year and ended with a conference championship, the Cowboys gained more yards than any other NFL club.

It is basically set for '76.

Staubach, a grown adult of 34 now, still sulks that Landry won't allow him to call the plays himself. But he is a proven victorious quarterback who has developed a quick, clever personality. He rated last year as the No. 2 NFC passer.

Landry installed the shotgun formation last year for long-yardage situations. Staubach is perfect for this alignment and it worked. His scrambling ability has not lessened.

"I think the key to our last season was Preston Pearson," Landry said.

Pearson became a glamorous figure. He was the lone Cowboy not originally drafted by the club. This was his third team, indeed his third different Super Bowl team. He became a starting runner when lifted off the waiver lists from Pittsburgh at the start of the season. He scored three touchdowns in the championship

game victory over the Rams.

He remains a listed starter in a backfield with extreme depth. Chunky Robert Newhouse was publicly ridiculed by Howard Cosell on national television. But he gained 930 yards during the season. Behind them the Cowboys have Charles Young, Doug Dennison, rookie Jim Jensen and the Giants' Ron Johnson who played out his option.

And Duane Thomas again. Duane is back, all seems forgiven, and he is Landry's rehabilitation project. Thomas is listed as a third-stringer. But if the old abilities remain he can be the best running back in the NFC. Landry now says only Duane could add depth and versatility. He also says "This is the finest group of backs we've ever had at Dallas."

The receiving is expert. Drew Pearson caught 46 passes during the year—then the 50-yard bomb at Minnesota which made the Cowboys a miracle. Golden Richards is fleet and dashing. Dallas lost Jean Fugett, the incumbent tight end, when he defected as a free agent to Washington. With him went 38 catches. But Billy

MEL RENFRO, Cowboys' 6-0 190-pound vet cornerback, manhandles LYNN SWANN, Pittsburgh wide receiver, during 1975 exhibition game.



Joe DuPree remains and Landry will find another capable tight end to run his messages to Staubach.

The line was made over last year and provides protection. It is across Ralph Neely, Burton Lawless, John Fitzgerald, Blaine Nye and Rayfield Wright.

The concern is on defense, behind the revamped, restyled line.

"The aging process continues at linebacking and defensive back positions," Landry said. It is a

process that cannot be halted. But there are alternatives.

Bob Lilly, for example, retired last year, but the defensive line remained viable with growth of others.

In recent years, Too Tall Jones and Harvey Martin joined up and produced a damaging outside rush. Jethro Pugh continues as a star. He is the lineman Landry says provides the stability. Larry Cole moved inside to play well at Lilly's vacated spot. Bill Gregory fits in well, too.

The antiquity of the linebacking troubles Landry. Jordan, the team's longtime leader, now is 35—and it is surprising he is that young. Outside Dave Edwards retired at 36. His probable replacement is Bob Breunig, one of the Cowboy's stellar second-year men. Also, Randy White, one of last year's inspirational rookie heroes, will challenge Jordan.

Mel Renfro is 34 and thus Landry is concerned about his defensive backfield. As a consequence, the Cowboys drafted defensive back Aaron Kyle on the

first round this year. The other positions are established—Mark Washington, Charlie Waters and Cliff Harris. A veteran candidate is Benny Barnes.

Landry regards the kicking game as a weakness. He hopes for improvement from punter Mitch Hoopes. Toni Fritsch returns as the place kicker.

With Paul Brown's retirement, Landry has become the dean of NFL coaches. There is wisdom: "St. Louis is going to be exceptionally strong again. Remember one of our surprises was being a wildcard team in the Super Bowl. The Cardinals won the division."

But the Cowboys won the conference and could again.



JETHRO PUGH, defensive tackle, takes on two Rams during '75 game.

PRESTON PEARSON gave Cowboys' attack unexpected boost in 1975.



1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Fritsch, 104 points on 38 XP, 22 field goals	2nd
RUSHING —Newhouse, 209 carries for 930 yds., 4.4 Avg., 2 TDs	4th
PASSING —Staubach, 198 of 348 attempts for 2666 yds., 17 TDs	2nd
RECEIVING —D. Pearson, 46 receptions for 822 yds., 8 TDs	9th
INTERCEPTIONS —Jordan, 6 for 80 yds., 13.3 Avg.	7th
PUNTING —Hoopes, 68 punts, 34.4 Avg., longest 55 Yds.	10th
PUNT RETURNS —Richards, 28 for 288 yds., 10.3 Avg., 1 TD	5th
KICKOFF RETURNS —P. Pearson, 16 for 391 yds., 24.4 Avg.	7th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 AT Oakland (N)
Aug.	7 AT Los Angeles (N)
	14 DENVER (N)
	Detroit
	28 PITTSBURGH (N)
Sept.	4 HOUSTON (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 PHILADELPHIA	27-17
19 AT New Orleans	—
26 BALTIMORE	—
Oct. 3 AT Seattle	—
10 AT N.Y. Giants	—
17 AT St. Louis	17-31
24 CHICAGO	—
31 AT Washington	24-30
Nov. 7 N.Y. GIANTS	14-3
15 BUFFALO (N)	—
21 AT Atlanta	—
25 ST. LOUIS	37-31
Dec. 5 AT Philadelphia	20-17
12 WASHINGTON	31-10

COWBOYS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
31	Barnes, Benny	CB	6-1	185	25	5	Stanford
53	Breunig, Bob	LB	6-2	227	23	2	Arizona St.
59	Capone, Warren	LB	6-1	218	25	2	La. State
63	Cole, Larry	DT	6-5	250	29	9	Hawaii
57	Davis, Kyle	C	6-4	240	24	2	Oklahoma
21	Dennison, Doug	RB	6-0	195	24	3	Kutztown
67	Donovan, Pat	T	6-4	250	23	2	Stanford
89	DuPree, Billy Joe	TE	6-4	228	26	4	Michigan St.
62	Fitzgerald, John	C	6-5	255	28	6	Boston Col.
15	Fritsch, Toni	K	5-7	195	31	5	None
77	Gregory, Bill	DT	6-5	252	26	6	Wisconsin
43	Harris, Cliff	S	6-1	190	27	7	Ouachita
56	Henderson, T.	LB	6-2	220	23	2	Langston
1	Herrera, Efran	K	5-9	185	25	3	UCLA
9	Hoopes, Mitch	P	6-1	210	23	2	Arizona
81	Howard, Percy	WR	6-4	210	24	2	Aust. Peay
42	Hughes, Randy	S	6-4	200	23	2	Oklahoma
	Johnson, Ron	RB	6-1	205	29	8	Michigan
72	Jones, Ed	D-E	6-9	260	25	3	Tenn. St.
55	Jordan, Lee Roy	LB	6-1	221	34	14	Alabama
18	Kokulus, Harry	K	5-10	190	24	1	Iowa
35	Laidlaw, Scott	RB	6-0	206	23	2	Stanford
66	Lawless, Burton	G	6-4	250	22	2	Florida
50	Lewis, D.D.	LB	6-1	218	31	8	Mississippi
19	Longley, Clint	QB	6-1	193	24	3	Mississippi
79	Martin, Harvey	DE	6-5	250	25	4	Abilene Chr.
73	Neely, Ralph	T	6-6	260	33	12	E. Tex. St.
44	Newhouse, R.	RB	5-10	200	26	5	Oklahoma
61	Nye, Blaine	G	6-4	255	30	9	Houston
88	Pearson, Drew	WR	6-0	180	25	4	Stanford
26	Pearson, P.	RB	6-1	205	31	10	Tulsa
75	Pugh, Jethro	DT	6-6	250	32	12	Illinois
20	Renfro, Mel	CB	6-0	190	34	13	Eliz. City St.
83	Richards, G.	WR	6-0	183	26	4	Oregon
68	Scott, Herbert	G	6-2	250	23	2	Hawaii
12	Staubach, Roger	QB	6-3	197	34	8	Va. Union
33	Thomas, Duane	RB	6-1	215	29	5	Navy
78	Walton, Bruce	T	6-6	252	25	4	W. Tex. St.
46	Washington, M.	CB	5-11	186	28	7	UCLA
41	Waters, Charlie	S	6-2	193	27	7	Morgan St.
54	White, Randy LB-DL	LB	6-4	245	23	2	Clemson
70	Wright, Rayfield	T	6-6	260	31	10	Maryland
30	Young, Charles	RB	6-1	210	23	3	Ft. Valley St.
							N. C. State

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Cook, Leroy	DL	6-4	212	24	Alabama
Costanzo, Rich	T	6-4	260	23	Nebraska
Curry, Dale	LB	6-2	222	22	UCLA
Driscoll, Mark	QB	6-1	184	23	Colo. St.
Eldson, Jim	G	6-4	253	22	Miss. State
Ferguson, Duke	WR	6-1	186	22	S. Diego St.
Greene, C.	QB	5-11	170	22	Ohio St.
Hegman, M.	LB	6-1	221	24	Tenn. St.
Jensen, Jim	RB	6-4	226	23	Iowa
Johnson, M.	WR	6-1	175	22	Riverside
Kyle, Aaron	DB	5-11	183	22	Wyoming
Laws, Henry	DB	5-10	171	22	S. Carolina
McGuire, Greg	T	6-3	265	24	Indiana
McShane, C.	LB	6-2	211	22	Cal Luth.
Mushinski, Larry	TE	6-3	217	23	Nebraska
Pesuit, Wally	T	6-4	260	22	Kentucky
Rafferty, Tom	G	6-3	248	22	Penn St.
Reece, Beasley	DB	6-1	193	22	North Tex.
Schaum, Greg	DT	6-4	246	22	Michigan St.
Smith, John	RB	6-0	191	22	Boise St.
White, D. (WFL) QB-P	QB-P	6-3	190	24	Arizona St.
Williams, David	RB	6-2	210	22	Colorado
Woodfill, Stan	K	6-0	190	22	Oregon

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	Right	Wrong
Sept. 11 - Ariz. St. over UCLA	_____	_____
Sept. 11 - Mo. over USC	_____	_____
Sept. 18 - Md. over W. Va.	_____	_____
Sept. 18 - Ohio St. over Penn St.	_____	_____
Oct. 9 - Okla. over Tex.	_____	_____
Oct. 16 - Minn. over Mich. St.	_____	_____
Oct. 23 - UCLA over Calif.	_____	_____
Nov. 13 - Ala. over N. Dame	_____	_____
Nov. 20 - Ohio St. over Mich.	_____	_____
Nov. 27 - N. Dame over USC	_____	_____

(Insert actual predicted score)

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Russ Berg with Denise Lifter, Research Analyst.

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ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

PREDICTION 2ND

The Cardinals for so long were a caricature of the burlesque bag man. The guy in the derby with the polkadot pants that kept falling down.

But now they have purged that ancient image that made the league laugh and sometimes cry.

The St. Louis Football Cardinals they call themselves with dignity. They'd make a fine barroom riddle. Guess the team that's got a mini dynasty going in the NFC East? Five bucks says you can't. No, not George Allen's. Nope, not Tom Landry's you lose.

Don Coryell's Football Cardinals, that's who. They've won two successive titles in the NFC East—and succeeded in becoming pro

football's nondescript winners.

That's the new image. It replaced the comic relief routine. The Cardinals are phantom winners, rulers of the East, 21 and 7 over the past two seasons. And a first-round playoff loser each year.

It is their playoff inefficiency which leaves the Cardinals unappreciated, without glamor, disrespected—and even laughed at still.

Coryell is a wizard builder who has yet to acquire public stature. Howard Cosell doesn't speak his name with awed reverence, yet Coryell has won the same number of games as Don Shula the last two years.

He has rust-colored hair, a meager reputation—and a philos-

DON CORYELL, Coach.

Assistants: Joe Gibbs, Willie Zapolac, Jim Hanifan, Ray Willsey, Chuck Weber, Harry Gilmer, Jim Curzi.

ophy that has awakened a moribund franchise. He is not clever with words, but he is with Xs and Os.

"We won our division the last two years by being able to win the close ball games, by being able to come up with that little extra effort when we needed it," Coryell said. "I hope we can be fortunate enough to continue to win the close ones and stay in the race for a playoff position."

That rhetoric isn't quite as flamboyant as stating with open zeal: "I love that name, Over the Hill Gang." But not everyone in the East has Allen's geyser emotion.

Allen works in Washington with an open-end budget. Landry works in Dallas with a precision machine which supplies an over-abundance of talent to fit every cranny.

Coryell has smoothed the image, but must operate and win with fearsome restrictions. Some of the old vaudeville manages to slip through from the top of the management.

An example would be the Cardinals' shoestring hold on travel expenditures. Pro clubs nowadays fly into large metropolitan airports for their games on the morrow. The St. Louis organization scouts about for a secondary airport, perhaps obsolescent, near the city. That way the Cardinals beat the airport landing-departure fee, which is sizable, yet nominal when you pro-rate it among a group of 70 to 80 passengers.

Certainly such stinginess must permeate the organization and handicap Coryell.

"Our goal is to make it some way to the playoffs again," Coryell said. "But in order to do that I feel we have to improve our defense. We are pleased with our draft and our recent trades in that area. Defensive tackle Mike Dawson, our No. 1 draft choice, is a big, strong player. Our third-round pick, Brad Oates, could play on the defensive line al-

JIM HART, Cardinals' vet quarterback, ranked fifth in NFC passing.





WALT PATULSKI, 6-6 defensive end, came from Bills to Cardinals.

Cardinals are prideful that they scored 15 touchdowns from more than 35 yards out. Metcalf is the catalyst.

He is versatile. A year ago he established an NFL record with his 2462 combined net yards. Metcalf rushed for 813 yards. He caught 43 passes for 378 yards. He returned 23 punts for 285 yards, with the best average in the NFC at 12.4 yards. He returned 35 kickoffs for 960 yards. He even ran 23 yards with a recovered fumble. He is dangerous from anywhere in any shape. Metcalf threw a 51-yard pass for a touchdown to Mel Gray.

He produced touchdowns in five different ways. In the storied history of the NFL, only three other players had done that. Metcalf, it should be mentioned, also led the NFL in temper tantrums.

There is a blend in the backfield. Jim Otis is 4-5-6-yard plugger with driving power. Otis bulldozed for 1,076 yards last year which made him the NFC rushing champion. Thousand-yard runners no longer are rarities in

pro football. Otis had been in the league six years, been with two other clubs before reaching this status. So there must be some question about an encore in 1976.

Jim Hart has proven through years of testing to be a redoubtable quarterback with explosive qualities. Suddenly he is a 10-year quarterback, still apple-cheeked and some times sporadic. Hart threw 19 touchdown passes last season, a noble effort. He also threw 19 interceptions, an ignoble figure. He has the abilities to be a Super Bowl quarterback—the arm and the knowledge.

The club itself has a Super Bowl offense with the quarterback, the runners, receivers Mel Gray, Ike Harris, Earl Thomas and Jackie Smith. And the best pass protection in pro football.

St. Louis' offensive line makes it fun for Metcalf and Otis and simple for Hart. The names are Roger Finnie, Bob Young, Tom Banks, Conrad Dobler and Dan Dierdorf. Dierdorf has become an outstanding tackle. Dobler is a fine guard. He has a reputation,

though he played offense in college.

"We also picked up Walt Patulski from Buffalo and Marvin Upshaw from Kansas City—two seasoned defensive linemen. The combination of the new people and our returning players should make for a very competitive situation.

"Last year, our offense ranked near the top of the league in both scoring and yards gained, but we can't afford to let up there, either. We're doing everything we possible can to keep our offensive attack going. We have the same people we have had the last couple of years and with the experience they've had playing together, plus some additional help from the draft, we should be a little stronger."

Coryell's words don't have to be flashy. The club has the talent to reach the playoffs again and maybe this time survive a while in the postseason. It won the division at 11-3 last year.

For flashiness, the Cardinals have Terry Metcalf. He is the flashiest player in the NFC. The

TERRY METCALF, who scored 11 TDs in 1975 rushed for 816 yards and ranked first in AFC punt returns, taking 23 for 285 yards, 1 TD.





which he tends to self-advertise, as the lineman with the grabbiest hands in the league.

This line allowed opposing linemen in to sack St. Louis quarterbacks merely eight times last year. It is a phenomenally low figure.

The defense must be upgraded for the Cardinals to figure seriously for a Super Bowl visit. The rush line of Bob Bell, Charlie Davis, Bob Rowe and Ron Yankowski was substandard. Hence, the Cardinals traded for Patulski and Upshaw. Upshaw is a proven campaigner. Patulski once was the first collegian taken in a draft. It is an honor, but Patulski never did achieve the performance anticipated in Buffalo. The Bills finally tired of waiting. Rookie Dawson, a 270-pounder from Arizona, could be a starter.

The linebacking is dependable but not outstanding. Mark Arneson plays the middle with ability. Larry Stallings is now an old warhorse outside at age 34. Pete Barnes is the other outside incumbent and faces the challenge of trade acquisition veterans Rodrigo Barnes and Al Beauchamp.

The best feature of the Cardinals' defense is the secondary. Roger Wehrli and Norm Thompson play outside and excel on coverage. They intercepted 13 passes last year. Wehrli annually is one of the league's finest. Ken Reaves is a fine safetyman and Coryell has been able to keep him happy. Two other clubs previously dumped Reaves. Clarence Duren is the incumbent free safety. But it is likely Mike Sensibaugh will evict Duren. Sen-

sinbaugh was a four-year starter with the Chiefs, who traded him across Missouri to St. Louis.

Jim Bakken is a cornerstone part of the franchise and is back to handle the place kicking. Last year Bakken had his finest season after several off years. Jeff West comes back to punt.

The Cardinals, if Coryell has bulwarked the defense, can go to the Super Bowl. It would ruin a lot of those barroom riddle games of guess who?

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Bakken, 97 points on 40 XP, 19 field goals	3rd
RUSHING —Otis, 269 carries for 1076 yds., 4.0 Avg., 5 TDs	1st
PASSING —Hart, 182 of 345 attempts for 2507 yds., 19 TDs	6th
RECEIVING —Gray, 48 receptions for 926 yds., 11 TDs	8th
INTERCEPTIONS —Thompson, 7 for 141 yds., 20.1 Avg.	3rd
PUNTING —West, 64 punts, 37.7 Avg., longest 58 yds.	13th
PUNT RETURNS —Metcalf, 23 for 285 yds., 12.4 Avg., 1 TD	1st
KICKOFF RETURNS —Metcalf, 33 for 960 yds., 27.4 Avg., 1 TD	2nd

Pre-Season Games

July	31 N.Y. JETS (N)
Aug.	7 Oakland at Phoenix (N)
	16 San Diego at Tokyo
	21 AT Chicago (N)
	28 DENVER (N)
Sept.	3 KANSAS CITY (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

Sept.	12 AT Seattle
	19 GREEN BAY
	26 AT San Diego
Oct.	3 N.Y. GIANTS
	10 AT Philadelphia
	17 DALLAS
	25 AT Washington (N)
	31 SAN FRANCISCO
Nov.	7 PHILADELPHIA
	14 AT Los Angeles
	21 WASHINGTON
	25 AT Dallas
Dec.	4 BALTIMORE
	12 AT N.Y. Giants

1975 Scores

—
—
26-14
24-23
31-17
17-27
—
31-20
—
20-17
31-37
—
20-13

CARDS' stickouts include (l-r): MARK ARNESON, five-year vet who handles the middle linebacker job; JIM BAKKEN, star place-kicker now in his 15th campaign; NORM THOMPSON and ROGER WEHRLI, both excellent secondary players who combined for 13 intercepted passes during 1975 season.

CARDINALS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
68	Allison, Henry	GT	6-3	255	29	4	S. Diego St.
57	Arneson, Mark	LB	6-2	220	26	5	Arizona
31	Ashton, Josh	RB	6-1	205	27	5	Tulsa
25	Bakken, Jim	K	6-0	200	35	15	Wisconsin
54	Banks, Tom	C-G	6-2	245	28	5	Auburn
59	Barnes, Pete	LB	6-1	240	31	10	Southern
56	Barnes, Rodrigo	LB	6-1	215	26	4	Rice
58	Beauchamp, Al	LB	6-2	232	32	9	Southern
79	Bell, Bob	DE	6-4	250	28	6	Cincinnati
51	Brahane, Tom	C	6-2	250	24	4	Oklahoma
70	Brooks, Leo	DT	6-6	240	28	7	Texas
88	Cain, J.V.	TE-WR	6-4	225	25	3	Colorado
76	Davis, Charlie	DT	6-2	265	24	3	TCU
72	Dierdorf, Dan	T	6-3	280	27	6	Michigan
66	Dobler, Conrad	G	6-3	255	25	5	Wyoming
41	Duren, Clarence	S	6-1	190	25	4	California
60	Finnie, Roger	T	6-3	250	30	8	Fla. A&M
63	George, Steve	DT	6-5	265	25	2	Houston
85	Gray, Mel	WR	5-9	175	27	6	Missouri
30	Hammond, Gary	WR	5-11	185	27	4	SMU
84	Harris, Ike	WR	6-3	205	23	2	Iowa St.
17	Hart, Jim	QB	6-1	210	32	11	So. Illinois
50	Hartie, Greg	LB	6-2	225	25	3	Newberry
34	Jones, Steve	RB	6-0	200	25	4	Duke
69	Kindle, Greg	G-T	6-4	265	25	3	Tenn. St.
32	Latin, Jerry	RB	5-10	190	23	2	No. Illinois
21	Metcalf, Terry	RB	5-10	185	24	4	Long Beach
27	Moss, Eddie	RB	6-0	215	27	4	S.E. Mo. St.
53	Neils, Steve	LB	6-2	215	25	3	Minnesota
35	Otis, Jim	RB	6-0	225	28	7	Ohio St.
74	Patulski, Walt	DE	6-6	265	26	5	Notre Dame
36	Reaves, Ken	S	6-3	210	31	11	Norfolk St.
75	Rowe, Bob	DT	6-4	270	31	10	West. Mich.
20	Sensibaugh, M.	S	5-11	190	26	6	Ohio St.
46	Saverson, Jeff	CB-S	6-0	185	26	5	Long Beach
11	Shaw, Dennis	QB	6-2	210	29	7	S. Diego St.
81	Smith, Jackie	TE	6-4	230	36	14	N.W. La.
67	Stallings, Larry	LB	6-1	230	34	14	Ga. Tech
43	Tompson, N.	CB	6-1	180	31	6	Utah
45	Tolbert, Jim	CB-S	6-4	210	32	10	Lincoln
71	Upshaw, M.	DE-DT	6-4	260	29	9	Trinity
22	Wehrli, Roger	CB	6-0	190	28	8	Missouri
80	West, Jeff	TE-P	6-3	220	23	2	Cincinnati
55	White, Ray	LB	6-2	220	27	4	Syracuse
78	Yankowski, Ron	DE	6-5	250	29	6	Kansas St.
64	Young, Bob	G	6-1	270	33	11	How. Payne

ROOKIES

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
71	Adams, John	DT	6-5	265	23	West Va.
37	Akins, Marty	S	5-11	190	22	Texas
89	Beaird, Cecil	WR	6-0	175	24	Fisk
62	Brewton, Greg	T	6-6	270	22	Mich. St.
86	Burks, Randall	WR	5-11	170	23	SE Okla. St.
61	Crosier, Ray	DE	6-5	245	23	Abilene Chr.
73	Dawson, Mike	DT	6-4	270	22	Arizona
29	Johnson, G.	DB	6-0	190	26	Wisconsin
24	Morris, Wayne	RB	6-0	200	22	SMU
42	Myers, Dan	S	5-11	185	22	Ga. Tech
38	Nelson, Lee	S	5-10	185	22	Fla. State
65	Oates, Brad	T	6-6	250	22	Brig. Young
40	Rogers, Phil	RB	5-10	185	22	Va. Tech
83	Tilley, Pat	WR	5-10	175	23	La. Tech
23	Walker, Randy	RB	6-0	185	24	B.-Cookman

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WASHINGTON REDSKINS

PREDICTION 3rd

George Allen runs the Redskins as though he were operating the CIA. If he could get away with it, they'd play their games in secret. Anybody caught peeking would be given a last wish and face a firing squad.

You telephone Allen's headquarters and ask for the public relations professional who is supposed to polish the image. But to get through to PR you first have to endure a verbal frisking.

Allen's roster is listed by name, rank and serial number. The rest is classified. Players aren't drafted into Allen's Army. They are dragooned. Allen's credo is: All is fair in love and war and pro football.

The following data about the Redskins was smuggled out of Washington by an agent identified only by a number. The information was taken out hidden between the pages of The Pentagon Papers. Don't repeat what you learn here to a soul. Loose lips sink ships. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. Treason is a capital offense.

This much is known. The Redskins missed qualifying for the playoffs last year. It was the first time since Allen went to Washington that the club missed. They had made the playoffs four years straight. Allen blamed bum officiating calls for the Redskins' demise last year. He might be justified. The Redskins went 8-6. The Over the Hill Gang was over the hill.

Allen, when he went to a Super Bowl, said: "Defeat is like death." Last year was grisly. Before it began he cashiered Sonny Jurgensen, an old warrior. Jurgy's teammates nearly mutinied. The ranks broke.

Of course, there were no high draft choice again this year. Rookies could make mistakes. Bust the security curtain.

Allen instead went out and got some more dragoons. The Rozelle Rule became obsolete. Allen became the first to shoot through the legal loophole. He signed Calvin Hill and Jean Fugett, who had become free agents. They formerly served with the Cowboys. The Cowboys are the Redskins' worst enemies. There was no better place to dragoon defectors.

Then Allen, after a public denial of a cloak-and-dagger type meeting, also dragooned John Riggins. Riggins had grown disenchanted with the Jets and the King's ransom they paid Joe Namath. Allen enlisted Riggins as another free agent.

A coded message from Allen was intercepted. It might have been leaked deliberately to the enemy as propaganda. With Allen, you never are certain. He said:

"During the offseason we have signed 24 players from the World Football League. If we get two players out of our draft that can

GEORGE ALLEN, Coach.

Assistants: Bill Austin, Dick Biel-ski, Joe Walton, Paul Lanham, LaVern Torgeson, Charlie Waller, Kirk Mee, Ralph Hawkins, Bill Hickman.

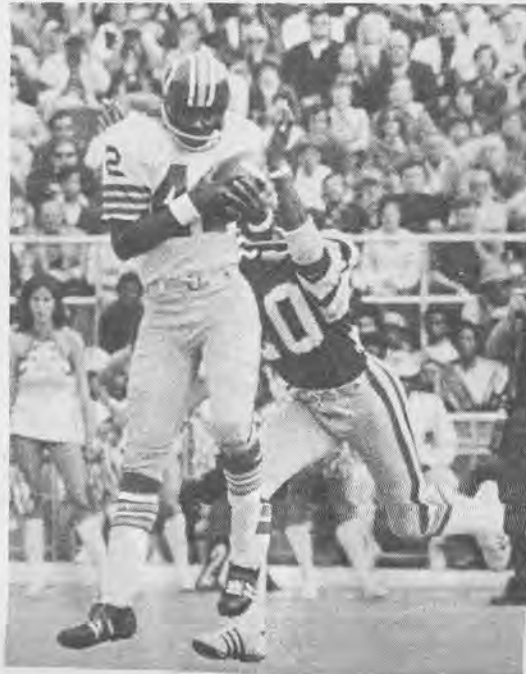
help, I'll be pleased. And, if we get two players out of the 24 signees from the World Football League, excluding Calvin Hill, I'll be pleased. We have a chance to be the best balanced squad in the six years I've been here if this new talent comes through. We drafted for need in the early rounds with Mike Hughes and Curtis Akins for the offensive tackle.

"Overall, I think we will be strengthened in five areas: 1. Our punt and kick returning should improve with Larry Jones returning and the signing of Doug Winslow, Joe Wylie, Tommy Marvaso, Walter Tullis and Dave Thomas. 2. Our offense should be improved with the additions of Calvin Hill and Jean Fugett. A healthier Larry Brown and Moses Denson along with the year's experience and improvement of Mike Thomas and Ralph Nelson should give the Redskins a balanced backfield. 3. I'm very hopeful that one of the young defensive backs that we signed,

BILLY KILMER connected on 23 TD aeriels for Washington in '75.



CHARLEY TAYLOR grabs pass, one of 53 he caught in '75 for Skins.



one or two signed, will come through both as player help and on special teams. 4. There was limited talent available from the World Football League and the college draft to strengthen the defense so we must improve on the present players we have. I'm very hopeful that one of our young defensive backs will come through. 5. And, lastly I think there should be more competition for positions than in previous years. That's a healthy situation. I am confident that the 1976 season will make a return to the playoffs for the Washington Redskins.

There can be no doubt that the Redskins are well armed.

Billy Kilmer is not an artisan at quarterback. His passes float and flutter. But he connects and he wins. Despite some missed time with injury last year, Kilmer threw 23 touchdowns passes. Only Fran Tarkenton threw more in the NFC. Kilmer is Allen's man, not a secret weapon here. There is ample veteran depth with the traveled Randy Johnson, Joe Theismann and Pat Sullivan in relief.

The receiving corps has explosive excellence. There is the nonpareil Charley Taylor, who has caught more passes than any receiver in NFL history now. The recordholder caught 53 last year. Roy Jefferson is back, another capable ancient. So is Frank Grant, the speed burner who filled in when Jefferson was hurt in 1975.

There is always competition in camp at tight end. Allen likes it that way. The last couple of years it has been Jerry Smith vs. Alvin Reed. They both play a lot. This year there is additional competition from Fugett, who has extreme talent and youth. Fugett also could play at wide receiver.

Even with so much talent on offense, Allen is defense-oriented. The offense is not tricky and Allen really is said to regard it as some evil that is necessary. Otherwise, he'd love to play defense all the time. This, of course, is another overstatement. Allen must do something to alleviate a serious disproportionate deficiency in the Redskins' offensive production.



JOHN RIGGINS, who carried 238 times for 1005 yards in 1975 for the Jets, signed with the Redskins after gaining his free agent status.

The pass offense was almost 2-1 more productive than the run offense last year. The passing accounted for more than 3000 yards. The run offense, with Larry Brown hobbled much of the year, accounted for 1752.

The imbalance was a major reason for the dragooning of Hill and Riggins. With the additions, Allen now can work with three men who have been Thousand-Yard runners. Hill did it once with Dallas, Riggins did it with the Jets last year. Brown had been a Thousand-Yarder before his injuries. The double running acquisitions were a coup for Allen. His distaste for rookies is proven by his trade-away draft tactics. But last year Allen couldn't help what happened. As was the case this year, the Redskins didn't have a choice until the fifth round. Then Allen selected obscure Mike Thomas.

Brown was hurt and useless during camp. Denson was better suited for blocking. So Allen, contrary to his own dogma, had no other choice. He had to use Mike Thomas. The rookie ran for 919 yards, fifth best in the NFC. He caught 40 passes. So now there is immense running depth with Thomas, Hill, Riggins, a recov-

ered Brown, Denson and Ralph Nelson.

The attack should be much better proportioned this year.

Allen traditionally has strong offensive lines. The returnees are Len Hauss, George Starke, Tim Stokes, Walt Sweeney and Paul Laaveg. Terry Hermerling, a former first-stringer also is back. He could swing at tackle and guard. Hughes, Allen's top rookie taken on the fifth round, is a guard. So is Akins, selected on Allen's third choice which occurred in the ninth round.

Even with the greater concentration, Allen's defense was disappointing in the non-playoff season. The pass rush was weaker.

There is considerable age on the defensive line. Ron McDole is 37. Diron Talbert is 32. Verlon Biggs, back from injury, is 33. Each is proven. Each is an expected starter. There is veteran experience in Bill Brundige, Manny Sistrunk, Dennis Johnson and Dave Butz. Brundige is the expected fourth starter. Sistrunk will work in on five-man line situations.

Crafty Chris Hanburger leads the linebacking contingent. He is 35 now, still a superior outside linebacker. Brad Dusek returns to



KEN HOUSTON grabs Cards' STEVE JONES as H. McLINTON (53), BILL BRUNDIGE (77) and DIRON TALBERT (72) make charge.

play the right side. In the middle Harold McLinton has returned from injury to accept the challenge from experienced Rusty Tillman. There might be a depth shortage to the linebacking in Washington.

Allen likes to tinker with his secondary, slipping in an extra defender, masking the coverages and so on. Again there is extreme age. Pat Fischer, a miniature mugger, now is 36. But he can keep up with and mash the swift receivers. The excellent Mike Bass is 31. Kenny Houston, the fearsome strong safety, is 32. Bryant Salter is the incumbent free safety at a precocious 26, but Brig Owens, 33 now, will fight to recapture the job that was his so long. When Allen goes to his nickel defense, five defensive backs, Eddie Brown is the fifth man. But Tommy Marvaso, Allen's second choice taken in the sixth round, could work in. Then

there are some free agents and other creatures, perhaps reporting in masks, who will try out.

Nobody regards kicking with more seriousness than George Allen. Mike Bragg does the punting, just a tender 30-year-old. Mark Moseley, a boy of 28, returns as the place kicker.

The Redskins remain a viable team, according to word received

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Moseley, 85 points on 37 XP, 16 field goals	6th
RUSHING —Thomas, 235 carries for 919 yds., 3.9 Avg., 4 TDs	5th
PASSING —Kilmer, 178 of 346 attempts for 2440 yds., 23 TDs	3rd
RECEIVING —Taylor, 53 receptions for 744 yds., 6 TDs	4th
INTERCEPTIONS —Bass, 4 for 85 yds., 21.3 Avg.	16th
PUNTING —Bragg, 72 punts, 40.6 Avg., longest 63 yds.	7th
PUNT RETURNS —Jones, 53 for 407 yds., 7.7 Avg., 1 TD	14th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Jones, 47 for 1086 yds., 23.1 Avg.	12th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 AT Atlanta (N)
Aug.	6 AT Baltimore (N)
	14 PITTSBURGH (N)
	21 AT Kansas City (N)
	28 AT N.Y. Jets (N)
Sept.	3 CHICAGO (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 N.Y. GIANTS	49-13
19 SEATTLE	—
27 AT Philadelphia (N)	10-26
Oct. 3 AT Chicago	—
10 KANSAS CITY	—
17 DETROIT	—
25 ST. LOUIS (N)	27-17
31 DALLAS	30-24
Nov. 7 AT San Francisco	—
14 AT N.Y. Giants	21-13
21 AT St. Louis	17-20
28 PHILADELPHIA	3-26
Dec. 5 AT N.Y. Jets	—
12 AT Dallas	10-31

MARK MOSELEY kicked 37 of 39 XP and 16 of 25 field goals in '75.



STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL

in a diplomatic pouch from Washington. This is an election year and Allen will be up for it. It has not been possible to confirm the report from Moscow that Allen will dragoon Henry Kissinger to negotiate the coinflips.

REDSKINS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
66	Arneson, Jim	G	6-3	250	25	4	Arizona
41	Bass, Mike	CB	6-0	190	31	9	Michigan
	Beckman, Tom	DE	6-6	255	26	3	Michigan
86	Biggs, Verlon	DE	6-4	275	33	12	Jackson St.
4	Bragg, Mike	P	5-11	186	30	9	Richmond
25	Brown, Eddie	S	5-11	190	24	3	Tennessee
43	Brown, Larry	RB	5-11	195	29	8	Kansas St.
77	Brundige, Bill	DT	6-5	270	28	7	Colorado
26	Brunet, Bob	RB	6-1	205	30	7	La. Tech.
65	Butz, Dave	DT-DE	6-7	297	26	4	Purdue
	Christiansen, B.	TE	6-4	230	27	2	UCLA
44	Denson, Moses	RB	6-1	215	32	3	Md.-E. Shore
59	Dusek, Brad	LB	6-2	214	26	3	Texas A&M
37	Fischer, Pat	CB	5-9	170	36	16	Nebraska
	Fuggett, Jean	TE-WR	6-3	226	25	5	Amherst
46	Grant, Frank	WR	5-11	181	25	4	So. Colo.
55	Hanburger, C.	LB	6-2	218	35	12	No. Carolina
84	Hancock, Mike	TE	6-4	220	26	4	Idaho St.
56	Hauss, Len	C	6-2	235	34	13	Georgia
75	Hermeling, Terry	T	6-5	255	30	6	Reno
82	Hickman, Dallas	DE	6-6	235	24	1	Berkeley
	Highsmith, Don	RB	6-1	220	28	5	Mich. St.
35	Hill, Calvin	RB	6-4	227	29	7	Yale
27	Houston, Ken	S	6-3	198	32	10	Pr. View
	Huff, Martin	LB	6-2	235	28	2	Michigan
80	Jefferson, Roy	WR	6-2	195	33	12	Utah
61	Johnson, Dennis	DE	6-4	250	25	3	Delaware
12	Johnson, Randy	QB	6-3	205	32	10	Texas A&I
21	Jones, Larry	WR	5-10	170	25	3	N.E. Mo.
	Kelly, Jim	TE	6-3	220	25	2	Tenn. St.
17	Kilmer, Billy	QB	6-0	204	37	15	UCLA
	Kinney, Steve	T-G	6-5	257	27	3	Utah St.
54	Kuziel, Bob	C	6-5	255	26	2	Pittsburgh
73	Laaveg, Paul	G	6-4	250	28	6	Iowa
35	Lobdell, Felix	RB	5-10	195	25	1	West. Ill.
79	McDole, Ron	DE	6-4	265	37	16	Nebraska
53	McLinton, H.	LB	6-2	235	29	8	Southern
	Matlock, John	C	6-3	250	32	5	Miami (Fla.)
3	Moseley, Mark	K	6-0	205	28	5	S. F. Austin
36	Nelson, Ralph	RB	6-2	195	22	2	None
57	O'Dell, Stu	LB	6-1	220	25	3	Indiana
	Opperman, Jim	LB	6-3	230	23	2	Colo. State
23	Owens, Brig	S	5-11	190	33	11	Cincinnati
88	Reed, Alvin	TE	6-5	235	32	10	Pr. View
	Riggins, John	RB	6-2	225	27	6	Kansas
30	Salter, Bryant	S	6-5	196	26	6	Pittsburgh
	Shears, Larry	CB	5-11	187	37	2	Lincoln
64	Sistrunk, Manny	DT	6-5	265	29	6	Ark. AM&N
87	Smith, Jerry	TE	6-3	208	33	12	Arizona St.
74	Starke, George	T	6-5	249	28	4	Columbia
76	Stokes, Tim	T	6-5	252	26	3	Oregon
	Sullivan, Pat	QB	5-11	201	26	5	Auburn
78	Sweeney, Walt	G	6-4	254	35	14	Syracuse
72	Talbert, Diron	DT	6-5	255	32	10	Texas
42	Taylor, Charley	WR	6-3	210	34	13	Arizona St.
7	Theisman, Joe	QB	6-0	184	27	3	Notre Dame
22	Thomas, Mike	RB	5-11	190	23	2	Las Vegas
24	Thomas, Spencer	S	6-2	185	25	2	Washburn
67	Tillman, Rusty	LB	6-2	230	28	7	North Ariz.
	Winslow, Doug	WR	6-0	185	25	2	Drake
50	Wysocki, Pete	LB	6-2	225	28	2	W. Mich.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Akins, Curtis	G-C	6-3	245	23	Hawaii
Brannan, Tim	G	6-1	247	25	Maryland
Britt, W.	CB-WR	6-3	185	21	Michigan
Casey, Jay	C	6-1	245	24	Auburn
Clemons, Don	WR	6-3	196	23	Houston
Culpepper, John	G	6-1½	245	22	California
Ettinger, Jim	QB	6-3	198	28	Kansas
Evans, Robert	WR	6-2½	205	23	Mor. Brown
Gissler, Dean	DE	6-8	251	21	Nebraska
Heinrich, Mick	DE	6-5	230	24	Illinois
Homer, Gary	K	6-0	194	22	Ohio U.
Hughes, Mike	G	6-4	251	21	Baylor
Ianovale, Dennis	S	6-0	178	23	W. Chester
Laubacher, Dave	S	6-3	200	23	Akron
Lorch, Karl	DE	6-3	258	25	USC
Manstedt, Steve	LB	6-2	215	24	Nebraska
Marshall, Herb	S	6-2½	200	26	Cameron
Marvaso, Tommy	S	6-1	190	22	Cincinnati
Moderacki, Gary	DE	6-6	265	23	No. Arizona
Monroe, John	RB	6-2½	224	21	Bluefield St.
Poe, Tom	LB	6-1	228	23	Wash. State
Reynolds, Robby	P	6-0	205	23	S. Carolina
Satterwhite, H.	WR	5-11	185	23	S. Houston
Sheats, Eddie	LB	6-3	225	22	Kansas
Solverson, Pete	T	6-5	260	23	Drake
Strock, Dave	K-P	6-2	220	27	Va. Tech.
Strohmeier, Paul	LB	6-3½	235	21	Washington
Thomas, David	CB	5-11	178	24	Tex. So'ern
Thompson, J.	WR	6-0	180	23	Memphis St.
Tullis, Walter	CB	6-0	170	21	Delaware St.
Vosberg, Tom	QB	6-5	225	23	Dayton
Williams, Gerard	CB	6-1	184	24	Langston
Wilson, Tyrone	RB	6-1	215	22	Mich. State
Wylie, Joe	WR	6-1	190	25	Oklahoma
Young, Jim	RB	6-2	248	25	Tex. So'ern

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NEW YORK GIANTS

PREDICTION 4th

Larry Csonka was a champion at Miami. He was a plow-horse of a back, plunging forward, plunging forward, plunging forward.

It does not mean he will be a champion in New York, or New Jersey where the Giants now have taken root. It does not mean he will be plunging forward, plunging forward with the Giants. But he will be appearing at the bank quite frequently.

The Giants mortgaged their franchise to make Csonka a millionaire. The sense of signing him and giving him all those benefits

JOE DAWKINS gained 438 yards in 1975 to lead the Giant rushers.



and bonuses and expense account privileges will be determined at a future date.

Playing with the n'eer-dowells on the Giants is not the same as playing with fellow champions on the Dolphins.

Larry Csonka will play hard in New York. He always played hard, in college at Syracuse, at Miami and while on sabbatical with Memphis in the WFL. He was the brightest star to change his allegiance in this year of the end of the Rozelle Rule.

The Giants were a fourth-place 5-9 club last year before Csonka. Their record could be unimproved with Csonka. The Giants, moving to their swank Giants Stadium in the Jersey meadowlands, must combat the most arduous schedule in Football. Seven-half-of their games will be against clubs which were in last year's playoffs. In addition, there will be the usual two with the Redskins. There will be one with title-expectant Detroit. In one five-week period of the first half of the season, the Giants must play the Rams, Cardinals, Cowboys, Vikings and Steelers. In succession.

Larry Csonka will be bruised black and blue.

But what does a guy expect for two million bucks? Tea and a rocking chair.

The Giants emerged from last year with season-ticket propaganda that they were a growing contender. The description was Bill Arnsparger's. He is the coach and the Giants had climbed three games to the five-victory level.

Arnsparger's rationale was the Giants would be an emerging team because of their extreme youth. He had started 10 second-year men throughout the season. His squad included 23 players of the first and second-year category. So his logic was the club would continue to improve because the young players would continue to mature.

It is a theory most clubs also

BILL ARNSPARGER, Coach.

Assistants: Ray Wietecha, John Symank, Hunter Enis, John McVey, Ed Rutledge, Ted Plumb, Allen Webb, Marty Schottenheimer, Jay Fry.

believe in. For some it has been viable and workable. For others it has been a source of deep wishful thinking followed by a forlorn awakening and anguish.

Ordinary players in New York are presented to rest of America as glamor stars. The communications industry and the advertising pitchmen are based in New York. Journeymen players are romanticized and their pictures appear in the homes of middle America. Earl Morrall had a national radio show when he played in New York. Fran Tarkenton gained fame. But neither could win there.

Now Larry Csonka, who already is enormous, will be presented to America blown up quite larger than life. Perhaps the acclaim will be deserved. But it is so strange. The rest of the Giants are quite nondescript. That indeed is strange for a band of athletes playing in New York. They are unpublicized. It is another tipoff to the Giants' deep-seated tendencies toward mediocrity.

Csonka, it seems, went for the poop put out by the front office to peddle tickets to the new stadium.

"I'm too old to be starting from scratch," said the fullback, who is pressing 30. "I don't think I could endure rebuilding years now. I think the New York Giants are pretty well rebuilt."

That's what he thinks. He is wrong.

"I believe there's enough of an essence of a winning team here to turn things around. I might jump in here and get all the credit that might not be mine to take.

"By no stretch of the imagination do I consider myself a savior."

And if the Giants, as anticipated, fizzle playing in the most competitive division of the NFC? Well, Butch Cassidy is on Broadway and let the tubs thump.

The Giants have had running deficiencies. There were troubles making first downs in short-yardage conditions. This is Csonka's strength.

With feckless running, the offense became geared to passing. Craig Morton, the entrenched incumbent quarterback, is an ex-Super Bowl performer like Csonka. Morton was a winner at Dallas, where the fandom can shred a quarterback. He played in the interval between Don Meredith and Roger Staubach. He is a strong thrower, but does have a tendency to brood.

Now there will be improved balance to the attack. Morton can mix it. Beyond Csonka the Giants' running is spotty with several little-known athletes vying to do his blocking. Joe Dawkins led the club last year with a meager 438 yards. He will have a chance at halfback. So will Doug Kotar, who has done some things well in New York. Kotar was Dawkins' mate last year after Ron Johnson entered limbo. Johnson played himself into disfavor after superlative seasons and jumped to the Cowboys as a free agent. Gordie Bell, though smallish, is a rookie runner with promise.

The Giants annually tinker around with their receiving. There is the continued quest. The Giants, it seems, always are slapdash in this area, culling players who have passed through other rosters. Their returning receiving leader is veteran traveler Walker Gillette, who caught 43 passes in '75. The Giants were impressed with young Ray Rhodes. They also have Danny Buggs and Elmo Wright, who is a perennial passenger from club to club. The Giants added Tim Berra, who'll get some ink in New York because he is Yogi's son.

Bob Tucker returns as tight end; at one time he was a leading ball-catching tight end in the league.

The line which will try to punch the holes for Csonka lacks strength. It likewise is short on pass protection and Morton was dumped too often last year. Three of the blockers are the young players Arnsperger raved



LARRY CSONKA, the Giants' 2-million dollar man, is on the sidelines for Memphis WFL club last year with the 6-million dollar man—actor LEE MAJORS (with hat). No. 64 is TOM KRUYER, offensive guard who signed with the Giants for considerably less money than Csonka.

about at the end of last year. They should be improved—John Hicks, Tom Mullen and Al Simpson. Karl Chandler was a young irregular who could win a starting spot. The other returning starters are vets Doug Van Horn and Bob Hyland. In addition, to make Csonka feel secure, the Giants signed four of his blockers from Memphis WFL—Ralph Hill, Charlie Bray, Tom Kruyer and Mike Gibbons. So there's plenty of competition.

There were defensive lapses a year ago. That flaw should be patched somewhat this year. The rush line was hurt by an injury to John Mendenhall. Mendenhall is a strong pass rusher when well. Young Dave Gallagher should develop into a top lineman playing outside opposite the canny Jack Gregory. Gregory has the knack of reaching the quarterback. The Giants have more young vets in George Martin, Jim Pietrzak and Rick Dvorak. Larry

Jacobson returns from an injury. And the Giants drafted a defensive lineman on the first round, Troy Archer, who could be a starter.

Arnsperger was Don Shula's defensive genius in the Super Bowl years at Miami. The Dolphins had a defense which maneuvered well with its linebackers. Arnsperger would like to instill that trait into the Giants. The returning starters are Brian Kelley in the middle with Brad Van Pelt and Pat Hughes outside. It is a potent trio. Rookie Harry Carson, the Giants say, has outstanding potential.

Like other areas of this club, the secondary is green and tender. Bobby Brooks and Clyde Powers became starters last year as second-year players. They are expected to start again. Jim Stienke, fighting for a job, is versatile. The Giants get Henry Stuckey back from injury. And of course, Spider Lockhart, disgruntled because of his benching last year, is still around to supply savvy. The Giants also picked up veteran Charlie Ford, another traveler.

The Giants finally retired Pete Gogolak, who 10 years ago



DOUG VAN HORN, 6-3, 245-pounder is Giants' 10-year vet at tackle.

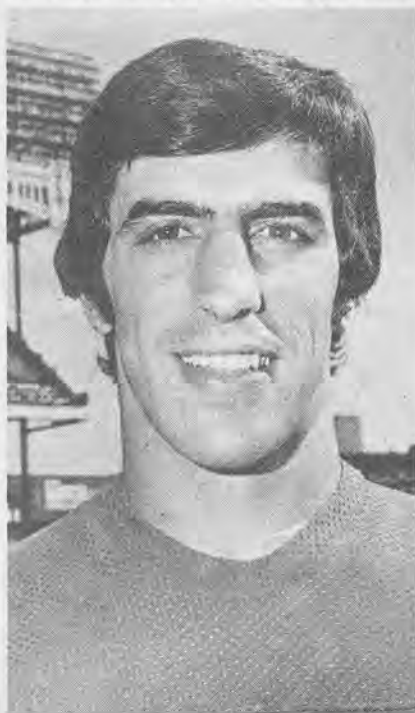
1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Hunt, 42 points on 24 XP, 6 field goals	22nd
RUSHING —Dawkins, 129 carries for 438 yds., 3.4 Avg., 2 TDs	19th
PASSING —Morton, 186 of 363 attempts for 2359 yds., 11 TDs	8th
RECEIVING —Gillette, 43 receptions for 600 yds., 2 TDs	12th
INTERCEPTIONS —Brooks, 4 for 38 yds., 9.5 Avg.	20th
PUNTING —Jennings, 76 punts, 40.9 Avg., longest 64 yds.	6th
PUNT RETURNS —Colbert, 27 for 238 yds., 8.8 Avg., 1 TD	10th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Colbert, 17 for 408 yds., 24.0 Avg.	8th

Pre-Season Games

Aug. 1 AT New England (N)	
9 AT N.Y. Jets (N)	
14 AT Houston (N)	
21 AT Pittsburgh (N)	
28 AT Green Bay (N)	
Sept. 4 AT San Diego (N)	

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 AT Washington	13-49
19 AT Philadelphia	23-14
26 AT Los Angeles	—
Oct. 3 AT St. Louis	14-26
10 DALLAS	7-13
17 AT Minnesota	—
24 PITTSBURGH	—
31 PHILADELPHIA	10-13
Nov. 7 AT Dallas	3-14
14 WASHINGTON	13-21
21 AT Denver	—
28 SEATTLE	—
Dec. 5 DETROIT	—
12 ST. LOUIS	13-20



BOB TUCKER is in his seventh campaign as Giants star tight end.

jumped over from the AFL. That jump, somewhat similar to Csonka's, was the first gambit that resulted in the AFL-NFL merger. George Hunt was picked up to replace Gogolak in '75 and he had a fair season place kicking. Dave Jennings, the punter, had a strong season.

Larry Csonka will have to endure rebuilding years; but he'll enjoy the trips to the bank.

GIANTS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
37	Brooks, Bobby	CB	6-1	195	25	3	Bishop
86	Bugs, Danny	WR	6-2	185	23	2	West Va.
61	Chandler, Karl	G	6-5	250	24	3	Princeton
39	Csonka, Larry	RB	6-2	240	27	9	Syracuse
33	Crosby, Steve	RB	5-11	205	26	3	Fort Hays
26	Dawkins, Joe	RB	6-2	220	28	7	Wisconsin
66	Dvorak, Rick	DT	6-4	245	24	3	Wichita
27	Ford, Charlie	CB	6-3	185	28	6	Houston
71	Gallagher, Dave	DE	6-4	256	24	3	Michigan
28	Giblin, Robert	S	6-2	205	24	2	Houston
84	Gillette, Walker	WR	6-5	200	29	7	Richmond
81	Gregory, Jack	DE	6-5	250	32	10	Delta St.
74	Hicks, John	G	6-2	258	25	3	Ohio St.
56	Hughes, Pat	LB	6-2	225	29	7	Boston U.
9	Hunt, George	K	6-1	215	27	3	Tennessee
70	Hyland, Bob	C	6-5	255	31	10	Boston Col.
	Jacobson, Larry	DT	6-6	260	26	4	Nebraska
13	Jennings, Dave	P	6-4	205	24	3	St. Lawrence
55	Kelley, Brian	LB	6-3	222	25	4	Cal. Luth.
44	Kotar, Doug	RB	5-11	205	25	3	Kentucky
43	Lockhart, Carl	S	6-2	175	33	12	No. Tex. St.
75	Martin, George	DE	6-4	245	23	2	Oregon
64	Mendenhall, J.	DT	6-1	255	28	5	Grambling
	Miller, Ralph	G	6-4	255	27	3	Cal. Luth.
15	Morton, Craig	QB	6-4	210	33	12	California
73	Mullen, Tom	T	6-3	250	25	3	S.E. Mo.
89	Obradovich, J.	TE	6-2	225	23	2	So. Calif.
76	Pietzak, Jim	DT	6-5	260	23	3	East Mich.
39	Powers, Clyde	S	6-1	195	25	3	Oklahoma
82	Rhodes, Ray	WR	5-11	185	26	3	Tulsa
59	Schmitt, Bob	LB	6-1	220	26	2	Nebraska
57	Selfridge, Andy	LB	6-3	220	27	5	Virginia
67	Simmons, Dave	T	6-6	249	24	3	Minnesota
79	Simpson, Al	T	6-5	255	25	2	Colo. St.
	Sloan, Bonnie	DT	6-5	260	28	3	Aust. Peay
20	Stienke, Jim	CB	5-11	182	26	4	S.W. Tex. St.
48	Stuckey, Henry	CB	6-1	180	26	4	Missouri
19	Summerell, Carl	QB	6-4	208	25	3	E. Carolina
38	Tucker, Bob	TE	6-3	230	31	7	Bloomburg
63	Van Horn, Doug	T	6-3	245	32	10	Ohio St.
10	Van Pelt, Brad	LB	6-5	235	25	4	Michigan St.
36	Watkins, Larry	RB	6-2	230	30	8	Alcorn A&M
17	Wells, Mike	QB	6-5	225	25	3	Illinois
29	White, Marsh	RB	6-2	220	23	2	Arkansas
72	Windauer, Bill	DT	6-3	245	27	4	Iowa
	Wright, Elmo	WR	6-0	255	34	11	Grambling
69	Young, Willie	T	6-0	255	33	11	Grambling

ROOKIES

*Free Agents

FIRST YEAR ROSTER

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Archer, Troy	DE	6-4	245	21	Colorado
Bacsa, Julius*	K	5-11	185	27	None
Bahr, Walter*	K	5-10	170	28	Navy
Bell, Gordon	RB	5-9	180	23	Michigan
Brantley, Craig	WR	6-1	180	22	Clemson
Bray, Charlie*	G	6-1	255	29	Central St.
Bryant, Bill*	DB	5-11	195	24	Grambling
Carson, Harry	LB	6-2	228	23	So. Carolina
Caswell, Rick	DB	5-9	180	24	W. Kentucky
Curnutte, Steve	DB	6-1	180	23	Vanderbilt
Demmerle, P.*	WR	6-1	195	23	Notre Dame
Golsteyn, Jerry	QB	6-4	208	22	No. Illinois
Hill, Ralph*	C	6-1	245	27	Florida A&M
Hobbs, Charlie*	WR	6-3	222	23	Arizona St.
Jeffrey, Neal*	QB	6-1	180	23	Baylor
Jordan, John	DT	6-3	262	24	Indiana
Krueyer, Tom*	G	6-2	252	27	Indiana
Lajterman, M.*	K	5-9	180	23	Montclair St.
Lawson, Dave	K	6-1	220	22	Air Force
Lloyd, Dan	LB	6-2	225	23	Washington
Mallory, Larry*	DB	6-1	186	24	Tenn. St.
Marion, Frank*	LB	6-3	228	25	Florida A&M
Miller, Joe*	T	6-5	260	24	Villanova
Morgan, Eddie	DT	6-3	242	23	Arkansas St.
Mullane, Jerry	LB	6-4	230	22	Lehigh
Powell, Teddy*	RB	6-1	225	24	Ohio State
Shirk, Gary*	TE	6-1	220	26	Morehead St.
Thomas, John	RB	6-3	200	23	Valley City
Townsend, M.*	DB	6-2	190	24	Notre Dame
Weinlein, G.*	DB	5-10	180	22	Hud. Valley
Wilson, Mel	DB	6-1	190	24	Cal St.

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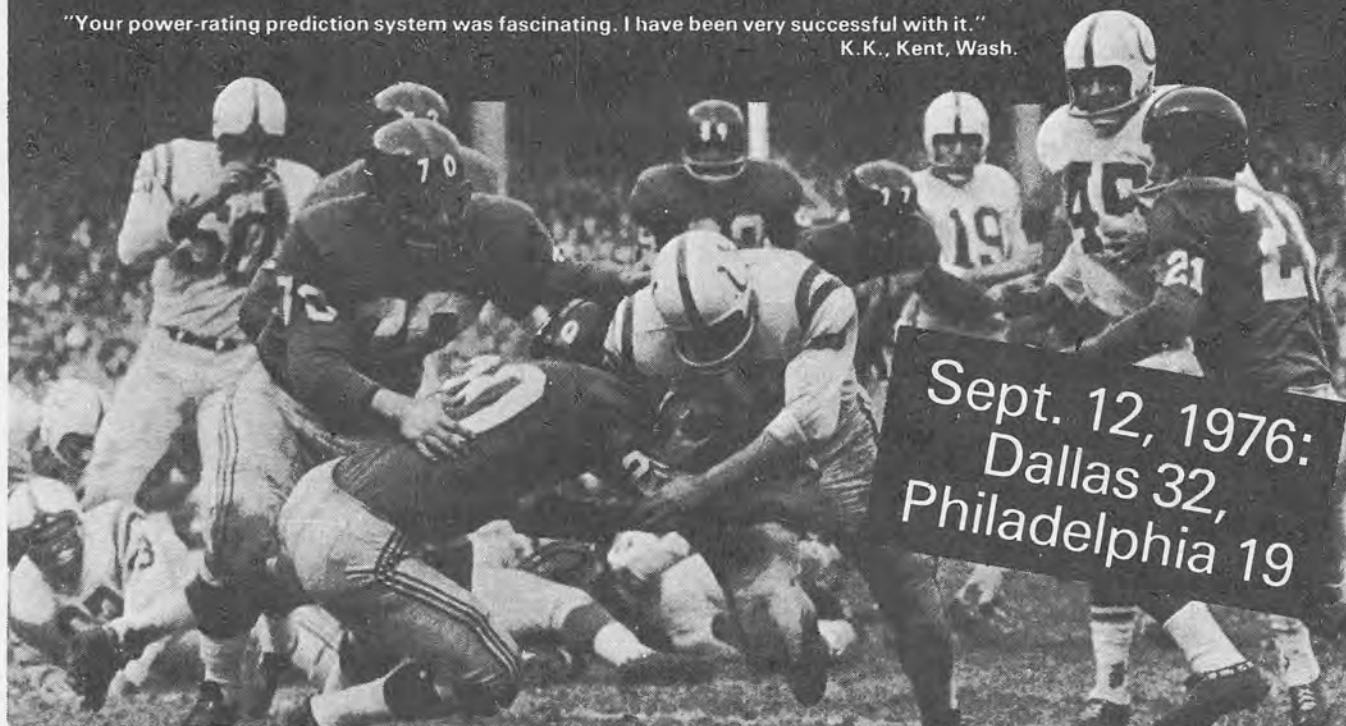
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**OUR EXPERTS COMBINE A FEEL FOR THE GAME
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PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

PREDICTION 5TH

Dick Vermeil upset Woody Hayes on New Years' Day in the Rose Bowl and was rewarded with a trip to Philadelphia.

W.C. Fields could have dandy fun with a situation like that.

Why would a rational, highly intelligent young football coach want to coach the Eagles anyway? It is a disaster club. It has an unkind record of torturing, then discarding head coaches. Vermeil is the Eagles' fourth head coach in six years. And the job had been offered to several others before him. The others turned it down, saying they'd never dare spend Sunday in Philadelphia.

Dick Vermeil is a highly intelligent young coach. His price was a reported \$800,000 for five years. The figure had established NFL

MIKE BORYLA appears ready to become No. 1 signalcaller in 1976.



coaches with better situations drooling with some envy.

But it was more than money, for Vermeil seems to possess some of the philosophies of an idealist. Or a cockeyed optimist. His first proclamation in Bicentennial Philadelphia was that he intended to rely mostly on holdover personnel.

W.C. Fields could have figured Vermeil was jesting.

The Eagles were 4-10 last year. Their quarterbacks were dumped 30 times before they could get passes off. Their defensive lineman could dump the other teams' quarterbacks merely 17 times.

The team was woefully inadequate in two of the most vital regions of football conflict. The offensive line and the defensive line.

Yet Vermeil came charging in from the West saying the guys who couldn't block and tackle were those he wanted to keep. What he said was this:

"First off, I'm going to give every guy in a green uniform credit for being a pretty good football player or else they wouldn't be here. Now what we've got to do is find a way to make them better football players and that usually starts with self-motivation and self-discipline.

"One of the most important things you do as coach is recognize the talents of the skilled athletes you have and then give them the opportunity to use those skills on a Sunday afternoon."

There is much idealism here. And with 800 grand Vermeil can afford to exercise his beliefs before discovering that the Eagles don't have that much skill.

Certainly, Vermeil, from UCLA with a background as a pro assistant, is a coach with verve and talent. It has become vogue for the pros to snatch head coaches from the colleges.

"Pro football forces you to find a better means of communication with the individual athlete,"

DICK VERMEIL, Coach.

Assistants: Chuck Clausen, John Idzik, Dick Coury, John Mazur, Ken Iman, Duane Putnam, John Roland, Rod Rust.



DICK VERMEIL has rugged task of rebuilding the Eagles' fortunes.

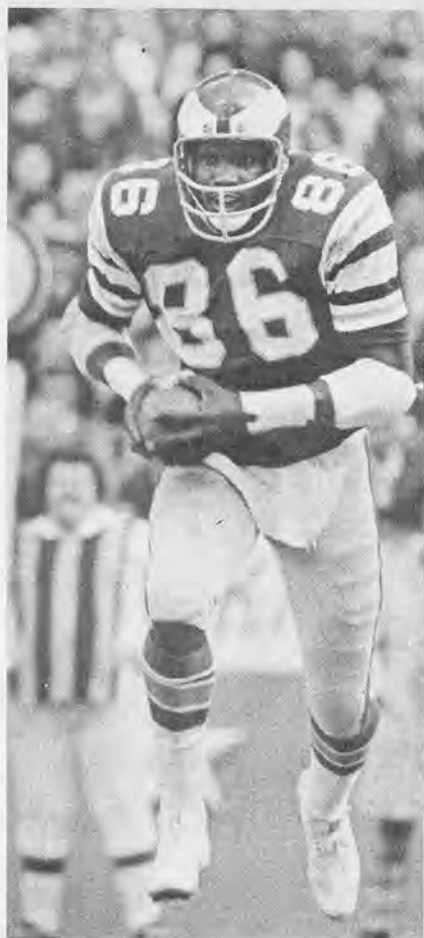
Vermeil said. "In college you can be more blunt, more direct with the group. College football players are not as sophisticated. They don't already have a philosophy.

"In pro football you are forced to be a better communicator and, I think, a better teacher. You have to be more sophisticated in your means of communication because, No. 1, these guys have pride, and No. 2, they are darn talented . . . If you don't give them respect, you won't get respect in return. There is no way."

There is no evidence that the kidnap method from the colleges has been a success or failure. It depends on the individual. Some such as Dan Devine and Tommy Prothro had problems turning pro. But Don Coryell has been a whopping success in St. Louis.

There no longer is any stigma to being a college coach who joins the hardened pros with an infusion of rah-rah.

Vermeil should manage if he can avoid front office meddling and serve his total contracted time. He proved his abilities when UCLA upset and devoured Woody Hayes' Ohio State rhinos in the Rose Bowl.



CHARLIE YOUNG, super tight end, grabbed 49 passes last year.

Balancing a sporadic offense was the first goal.

Despite the porous pass protection, the Eagles have had a potent pass offense with a suffering ground offense.

Vermeil joined the Eagles with one of those hounding quarterback dilemmas. There are two holdovers from Mike McCormack's regime. McCormack, too, had come to the Eagles with positive beliefs acquired from the teachings of George Allen.

The Eagles spent too much in future draft choices to trade for Roman Gabriel in 1973. Gabe had moderate success passing under McCormack. Other times McCormack benched Gabriel and went with Mike Boryla.

Now Vermeil inherits a two-quarterback situation. He must decide between the aging Gabriel, whose knees are knocked up, and a young Boryla. Boryla is ready to play No. 1 in the pros and would seem a better choice for a down team eager to grow. If he



FRANK LEMASTER, LB, nails Cowboys' ROBERT NEWHOUSE in 1975.

doesn't earn the starting job, he is bound to be unhappy. If he does win it, Gabriel will be awfully upset. He is one of the game's most renowned quarterback sulkers as it is.

"At quarterback, we have both youth and talent and experience and talent," was the way Vermeil put it.

The Eagles' pass-run imbalance is supported by the '75 statistics. They moved the ball all right. But over the year they moved it 700 yards more passing than running. They managed a mere three touchdowns via running, 19 via passing.

It made defending the Eagles quite simple for opponents. The other clubs merely had to rush the passer with the linemen and sit the linebackers and defensive backs to await the pass.

There are some stars—some skilled players Vermeil called them—on the roster.

"Our wide receivers have to be as talented a group as there is in the NFL," Vermeil said.

He is entitled to the opinion. Philly's receivers are good, but as a unit they cannot match Washington's, St. Louis' and Dallas'

right in their own division. The flamboyant Harold Carmichael caught 49 passes last year. He scored seven touchdowns. Charlie Smith caught 37. He scored six touchdowns. The statistics are outstanding, but the record was 4-10, remember?

And the Eagles' most dangerous receiver is the exciting, outspoken Charles Young. He caught 49 passes, three for touchdowns. He could become the best tight end in pro football, if his game ever matched his talk.

Strangely, the Eagles do have some fine running backs. Tom Sullivan has been the best and also is a decent receiver. James McAlister is sure to become a potent pro runner. Behind these two are Art Malone and Po James. Vermeil speaks of Sullivan as a runner of 1000-yard potential.

The trouble is on the line. There is some talent even there, with John Niland at guard and Jerry Sisemore at a tackle. Stan Walters, Guy Morriss and Wade Key play the other positions and Bill Lueck returns from injury status.

The defense is a problem area

simply because two or three All-Pro types just cannot win alone. Bill Bergey has become an outstanding middle linebacker. He is, perhaps, the best in pro football today. Bill Bradley long has been an All-Pro free safety. Randy Logan has developed into a brilliant strong safety.

But Vermeil must quickly improve the pass rush. Last year's defensive line consisted of Will Wynn, Blenda Gay, Bill Dunstan and Rich Glover. Dunstan is considered the anchorman on the line. He is an obscure performer, but he does possess some talent. Rookie Mike Smith could break into the starting unit.

Vermeil speaks with candor: "The defensive line could very well be the weakest area of our football team. It is inexperienced and not as talented as we would like, but we do believe there is great room for improvement."

Bergey plays middle linebacker the way Dick Butkus used to with the Bears. He is a ferocious athlete with wide range. John Bunting and Frank LeMaster along with Dean Halverson provide experience at the outside linebacking positions.

The secondary, with Bradley and Logan inside, is difficult to beat. Joe Lavender and John Outlaw normally play the corners. Artimus Parker could be moved outside for a cornerback challenge.

TOM SULLIVAN was the Eagles' best running back in 75 campaign.



Horst Muhlmann, the old German soccer player, is a place kicker with long range and moderate accuracy. Spike Jones and the ubiquitous Bradley handle the punting well.

The Eagles have a suicidal type of history with their reputation as coach killers. They have traded away too many high draft choices, the bloodline for improvement.

This year they did not have a pick until the fourth round. They took Smith, the defensive line hopeful. The No. 1 had been dealt earlier to Cincinnati for Boryla. Last year the Eagles did not have a choice until the seventh round. The year before they had none until the third. Gabriel and others were ultra-expensive.

So the Eagles have tried to form their team without a No. 1 nor No. 2 draft choice the last three years. The future is far away.

And that is why it took the \$800,000 and a five-year agreement to lure somebody to coach in Philadelphia.

W.C. Fields would have loved the Eagles.

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Muhlman, 81 points on 21 XP, 20 field goals	7th
RUSHING —Sullivan, 173 carries for 632 yds., 3.7 Avg.	12th
PASSING —Gabriel, 151 of 292 attempts for 1644 yds., 13 TDs	7th
RECEIVING —Young, 49 receptions for 659 yds., 3 TDs	6th
INTERCEPTIONS —Bradley, 5 for 56 yds., 11.2 Avg.	10th
PUNTING —Jones, 68 punts, 40.3 Avg., longest 64 yds.	8th
PUNT RETURNS —Marshall, 23 for 235 yds., 10.2 Avg.	6th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Marshall, 22 for 557 yds., 25.3 Avg.	4th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 AT San Diego (N)
Aug.	9 PITTSBURGH (N)
	14 AT Miami (N)
	23 CLEVELAND (N)
	28 AT Minnesota (N)
Sept.	5 AT New England (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 AT Dallas	17-27
19 N.Y. GIANTS	14-23
27 WASHINGTON (N)	26-10
Oct. 3 AT Atlanta	—
10 ST. LOUIS	23-24
17 AT Green Bay	—
24 MINNESOTA	—
31 AT N.Y. Giants	13-10
Nov. 7 AT St. Louis	20-13
14 AT Cleveland	—
21 OAKLAND	—
28 AT Washington	26-3
Dec. 5 DALLAS	17-20
12 SEATTLE	—



HORST MUHLMANN, German-born, booted 20 field goals last season.

EAGLES' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
38	Amundson, G.	RB	6-3	215	25	4	Iowa St.
66	Bergey, Bill	LB	6-3	250	31	8	Ark. State
67	Bleamer, Jeff	G	6-4	252	22	2	Penn St.
10	Boryla, Mike	QB	6-3	200	25	3	Stanford
28	Bradley, Bill	S-P	5-11	190	29	8	Texas
23	Brooks, Clifford	CB	6-1	190	27	5	Tenn. St.
95	Bunting, John	LB	6-1	220	26	5	No. Carolina
17	Carmichael, H.	WR	6-8	225	26	6	Southern
61	Dunstan, Bill	DT	6-4	250	27	4	Utah State
59	Ehlers, Tom	LB	6-2	218	23	2	Kentucky
5	Gabriel, Roman	QB	6-4	225	36	15	N. C. State
68	Gay, Blenda	DE	6-5	255	25	3	Fayetteville
69	Glover, Rich	DT	6-1	244	25	3	Nebraska
56	Halverson, Dean	LB	6-2	230	30	8	Washington
33	James, Ron	RB	6-1	202	27	5	N. Mex. St.
64	Janet, Ernie	G	6-4	252	27	5	Washington
6	Jones, Spike	P	6-2	195	30	7	Georgia
72	Key, Wade	G	6-5	245	29	7	S.W. Texas
84	Krepfle, Keith	TE	6-3	225	24	2	Iowa St.
30	Lavender, Joe	CB	6-4	190	27	4	S. Diego St.
55	LeMaster, Frank	LB	6-2	231	24	3	Kentucky
41	Logan, Randy	S	6-1	195	25	4	Michigan
51	Lou, Ron	C	6-2	240	26	4	Arizona St.
62	Lueck, Bill	G	6-3	250	31	9	Arizona
63	Luken, Tom	G	6-3	252	26	5	Purdue
26	Malone, Art	RB	6-0	216	28	7	Arizona St.
65	Manning, R.	DT	6-4	260	27	5	N.E. Okla.
22	Marshall, Larry	KR	5-10	195	27	5	Maryland
43	McAllister, J.	RB	6-1	205	24	2	UCLA
50	Morris, Guy	C	6-4	255	25	4	TCU
16	Muhlmann, Horst	K	6-2	219	36	8	None
74	Niland, John	G	6-3	250	32	11	Iowa
	Nelson, Dennis	T	6-5	260	28	6	Illinois
20	Outlaw, John	CB	5-10	180	30	8	Jackson St.
24	Parker, Artimus	S	6-4	200	26	3	So. Calif.
77	Ratliff, Don	DE	6-5	250	24	2	Maryland
76	Sisemore, Jerry	T	6-4	260	25	4	Texas
85	Smith, Charles	WR	6-1	185	26	3	Grambling
25	Sullivan, Tom	RB	6-0	190	26	5	Miami
75	Walters, Stan	T	6-6	270	27	5	Syracuse
71	Wynn, Will	DE	6-4	245	27	4	Tenn. St.
86	Young, Charles	TE	6-4	238	25	4	So. Calif.
80	Zimmerman, D.	WR	6-3	195	26	4	N. E. La.

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Balch, Gary*	LB	6-2	230	21	Long Beach
Campassi, Steve	RB	5-8	195	22	Kentucky
Capraun, Bill	T	6-5	255	23	Miami
Chastain, R.*	WR	5-11	189	21	So. Carolina
Ebbecke, Steve	S	6-0	185	21	Villanova
Fritsch, Tom*	C	6-2	220	22	St. Norbert's
Gilbert, Mike	DT	6-2	250	22	S. Diego St.
Gonzalez, Jose*	DE	6-4	255	23	Miami
Hairston, Carl	DT	6-3	245	22	Md. State
Hogan, Mike	RB	6-1	205	21	Tennessee
Johnson, Greg	DT	6-4	240	22	Florida St.
Johnson, Kirk	T	6-5	277	23	How. Payne
LaFargue, R.	C	6-4	246	22	Arkansas
Lusk, Herb	RB	6-0	190	22	Long Beach
McCarthy, J.*	QB	6-6	225	24	East. Ky.
Osborne, R.	TE	6-4	230	22	Texas A&M
Penny, Rick*	DB	5-11	190	22	Iowa
Shy, Melvin	S	6-1	195	21	Tenn. St.
Slade, Troy*	WR	6-1	191	22	Duke
Smith, Mike	DE	6-4	245	22	Florida
Tautolo, Terry	LB	6-2	235	21	UCLA
Terry, Anthony	CB	6-0	180	22	Davis
Ward, Milton*	RB	6-0	220	24	Houston
White, Brett	P	6-1	219	21	UCLA



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LOS ANGELES RAMS

PREDICTION 1st

In the ruins of the postseason, after the Rams' heartbreak, the rumors flew transcontinental.

1. Chuck Knox, who had won three divisional titles in three years with the Rams, was going to coach the Jets.

2. Joe Willie Namath, who had become a desultory quarterback with the Jets, had developed an urge to go to the Rams.

Gossip enhances the interest. And nowhere else are there more insidious gossip mongers than in New York and Los Angeles.

Carroll Rosenbloom had discovered Chuck Knox' potential as a head coach and he refused to let go. The Ram's owner squelched the first rumor with a brusque action. He took Chuck Knox, something of a miracle marvel, into a closed office. There Rosenbloom handed Knox a new five-year contract with a five-year option. Knox had denied any interest in the Jets anyway. He signed the contract and is as secure as Warren Beatty in LA.

There is some irony. More than a decade ago, before pro football's

merger, the Jets signed Joe Namath of Alabama. He was the \$400,000 quarterback. He rescued the AFL. He later delivered it to parity. Before Namath signed a young Jets' assistant was dispatched to Alabama with the check. He was to babysit Joe Willie, make sure he didn't stray.

The young assistant was Chuck Knox.

It was obvious last year Chuck Knox needed a quarterback of Namath's old proficiency. The Rams went 12-2 to win their division without trial. But seldom did they dazzle on offense.

Indeed the LA customers, so used to theatrics, became downright surly over the quarterback situation. The fickle critics were sharply derogatory when the Rams squandered their chance to go to the Super Bowl. For the second straight year, they missed in the NFC championship game. This time it was the Cowboys just clobbering the Rams 37-7.

James Harris was soundly hooted when his passes were errant and intercepted. Ron Jaworski was loudly cheered. But the precocious Jaworski proved lacking in experience.

A Namath at quarterback could vault the Rams to heaven. There were some exploratory overtures to the Jets and Namath sincerely was hopeful.

But Chuck Knox, secure and still in LA, remains with a quagmire QB situation. Will it be Harris, who has won well most of the time, or Jaworski, who has exceptional potential and a meager background?

Knox is in a quandry over this condition. With settled quarterbacking, the Rams could well dominate their conference and break the AFC's dominance.

The club is that talented and that well-coached. The athletes respond to Knox.

"I played for a lot of coaches," said wise Merlin Olsen, an All-

CHUCK KNOX, Coach.

Assistants: Tom Catlin, Lee Bennett, Jack Faulkner, Ken Meyer, Ray Prochaska, Elijah Pitts, Jim Wagstaff, Ray Malavasi.

Pro for a decade and a half, "not only with the Rams, but in the Pro Bowl. Some were great, some not great.

"Knox is as fine a coach as I've ever played for. He is so organized. He is exceptional because of the way he communicates with us. Communication is his secret.

"He doesn't try to con us. When we play well he compliments us. When we play badly, he tells. He doesn't play the intrigue route to try to jack us up for the game."

There is subtlety in Olsen's laudatory message. George Allen was successful coach for the Rams and Olsen played brilliantly for him. Allen would lead his hip-hip hooray cheers, then have a dish of ice cream.

Knox is a phlegmatic man who shuns such flimflam nonsense. His rhetoric is unspectacular. It mirrors the basic characteristic of his team.

"The Rams have solid foundations," said Knox, whose record for three seasons of head coaching is 34-8. "Three years of hard work, learning and teaching experience have paid off in three straight Western Division titles.

"This year will mark the greatest challenge this coaching staff has faced. Competition in the Western Division will be the strongest it has been in several years, certainly since we've been here. It will take a lot of hard work by the Rams to repeat. What's happened is history. The important things are to grow and work to get better both individually and as a team."

It is meat and potatoes language for a meat and potatoes team.

Knox is likely to resolve his quarterback dilemma by choosing Harris to start. The decision could be unpopular if Harris is not electrifying. The choice could be subject to change because Jawor-

RON JAWORSKI hopes to gain the first-string QB job for Rams.





LAWRENCE McCUTCHEON gained 911 yards for L/A in '75, missing 1000-yard mark for first time in 3 years.



DAVE ELMENDORF, six-year veteran safety for Rams, brings down Cowboys running back ROBERT NEWHOUSE.

ski can be a potent force for the offense.

But Harris has victory credentials unrecognized by his detractors. The Rams were 17-4 when he played during the past two years before a shoulder injury in late 1975 caused the pain and torment. Statistically he was the NFC's No. 4 passer last year.

For the long range, the Rams also have Pat Haden, the Rhodes scholar. But a team with championship aspirations would not risk them with a tenderfoot quarterback, even if he is smart.

The Rams, on offense, have wonderful balance, tuned slightly more to running. The backfield is deep with speed and power and the depth enables Knox to alternate runners. The strategy keeps the offense fresh.

Lawrence McCutcheon remains the most potent of the runners, though he missed the 1000-yard milestone the only time in three years last season. He gained 911 yards, sixth best in the conference.

With him, Knox can juggle versatile Jim Bertelsen, Cullen Bryant, John Cappelletti and Rob Scribner. The Rams also added Mack Herron, once was a terror for the Patriots.

There is an explosive quality to the outside receivers. Harris or Jaworski can aim deep for Harold Jackson and Ron Jessie. The receivers divide the catch, adding to the balance and the danger. Jackson caught 43 passes last year and Jessie 41. Bob Klein returns from an injury to play end again. In the Ram's scheme his blocking is critical.

The offensive line became too aged and mellowed. Two changes have been made to add youth to the trio of returning vets—Tom Mack, Rich Saul and John Williams, Doug France and Dennis Harrah are the new starters to replace the retired 15-year veterans Charlie Cowen and Joe Scibelli.

Harrah and France are proof of the Rams' wisdom in stockpiling high draft choices. They

learned as rookies last year. There should be no forfeiture of blocking efficiency.

There are spots on the defense which could be improved. But it is an overall sound defense. Or it was until the Cowboys shredded it in the NFC championship game. The defense turned puffy and yielded 37 points. But over the 12-2 season it was the stingiest defense in the league. The 135 points permitted was the second fewest since the league went to the 14-game schedule.

The value of intelligent drafting is exemplified by the Rams' defense. Five of the 11 starters, perhaps six this year, were first round draftees once upon a time.

Three of them play on the strong-rushing defensive line. Jack Youngblood and Fred Dryer, the ends, were No. 1s. They offer a potent outside assault on passers. And of course, Olsen long ago in 1962 was a No. 1. His mate at tackle is recovered Larry Brooks, who was a 14th-round choice.



The linebacking is very good and consists of two one-time first draft choices—Jack Reynolds in the middle and Isiah Robertson. One of the clubs two defensive changes will occur at the other linebacking spot. Ken Geddes, who had started, was lost to Seattle in the expansion draft. This year's No. 1 draftee, Kevin McLain, could win the camp competition for the starting job. He challenges reserve veteran Rock Kay and possibly Jim Youngblood.

The secondary strength is at safety with Dave Elmendorf and Bill Simpson, themselves early-round draftees. Simpson is an offensive-type player at free safety. He intercepted six passes, recovered five fumbles and blocked a punt that was turned into a touchdown. Elmendorf is the brains of the secondary.

Outside there are problems in the secondary. Al Clark, Charlie Stukes and Monte Jackson will compete for the two starting spots. Eddie McMillan started all last year, but went also to Seattle in the expansion draft. Jackson became a regular last year after Clark broke his leg.

TOM DEMPSEY made good on 21 of 26 field goals tries last year and ranked fourth in NFC scoring.

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Dempsey, 94 points on 31 XP, 21 field goals	4th
RUSHING —McCutcheon, 213 carries for 911 yds., 4.3 Avg., 2 TDs	6th
PASSING —Harris, 157 of 285 attempts for 2148 yds., 14 TDs	4th
RECEIVING —Jackson, 43 receptions for 786 yds., 7 TDs	11th
INTERCEPTIONS —Simpson, 6 for 90 yds., 15.0 Avg.	6th
PUNTING —Carrell, 73 punts, 39.4 Avg., longest 57 yds.	9th
PUNT RETURNS —Elmendorf, 15 for 125 yds., 8.3 Avg.	11th
KICKOFF RETURNS —McGee, 17 for 404 yds., 23.8 Avg.	10th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 TAMPA (N)
Aug.	7 DALLAS (N)
	14 AT Seattle (N)
	21 AT Oakland (N)
	28 BUFFALO (N)
Sept.	4 SAN FRANCISCO (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 AT Atlanta	—
19 AT Minnesota	0-38
26 N.Y. GIANTS	—
Oct. 3 AT Miami	—
11 SAN FRANCISCO	31-9
17 CHICAGO	—
24 AT New Orleans	7-23
31 SEATTLE	—
Oct. 8 AT Cincinnati (N)	14-21
14 ST. LOUIS	20-23
21 AT San Francisco	17-3
28 NEW ORLEANS	14-7
Dec. 4 ATLANTA	—
11 AT Detroit (N)	14-17

Stukes missed the entire season with an injury. The rookie with promise and possible starting potential is Pat Thomas second after the departure of McMillan.

Tom Dempsey, a boomer who holds the NFL record of a 63-yard field goal, had an odd 1975 season as a place kicker. He was more reliable on field goal attempts—21 of 26—than he was on extra points. He missed five of 36 PAT attempts. Sometimes he confounds Knox. Punting is a perennial problem. Duane Carrell returns, but the job could go to Rusty Jackson, who had an excellent average in the WFL.

The Rams, overall, have the best material in the NFC. But the quarterback question nags persistently. It is rumored that Chuck Knox should get the Rams to the Super Bowl this time.

RAMS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
45	Bertelsen, Jim	RB	5-11	205	26	5	Texas
90	Brooks, Larry	DT	6-3	255	26	5	Va. State
32	Bryant, C.	RB-KR	6-1	235	25	4	Colorado
22	Cappelletti, J.	RB	6-1	217	24	3	Penn St.
17	Carrell, Duane	P	5-10	185	27	3	Florida St.
44	Clark, Al	CB	6-0	185	28	6	East. Mich.
73	Cowan, Charlie	T	6-4	265	38	16	N. Mex. H'I
70	Cowlings, Al	DE	6-5	245	29	7	So. Calif.
55	DeMarco, Bob	C	6-2	248	38	16	Dayton
10	Dempsey, Tom	K	6-1	260	29	8	Palomar
89	Dryer, Fred	DE	6-6	240	30	8	S. Diego St.
42	Elmendorf, D.	S-KR	6-1	195	27	6	Texas A&M
79	Fanning, Mike	DT	6-6	260	23	2	Notre Dame
77	France, Doug	T	6-5	260	23	2	Ohio St.
60	Harrah, Dennis	G	6-5	257	23	2	Miami (Fla.)
12	Harris, James	QB	6-4	210	29	7	Grambling
41	Herron Mack	RB-KR	5-5	175	28	4	Kansas St.
29	Jackson, H.	WR	5-10	175	30	9	Jackson St.
28	Jackson, Monte	CB	5-11	189	23	2	S. Diego St.
6	Jakowenko, G.	K	5-9	180	28	2	Syracuse
16	Jaworski, Ron	QB	6-2	185	25	3	Youngstown
81	Jessie, Ron	WR	6-0	185	28	6	Kansas
76	Jones, Cody	DT	6-5	240	25	3	S. Jose St.
52	Kay, Rick	LB	6-4	235	27	3	Colorado
80	Klein, Bob	TE	6-5	235	29	8	So. Calif.
65	Mack, Tom	G	6-3	250	33	11	Michigan
30	McCutcheon, L.	RB	6-0	205	26	4	Colo. St.
67	Nelson, Bill	DT	6-7	270	28	6	Oregon St.
83	Nelson, Terry	TE	6-2	230	25	3	Ark. AM&N
74	Olsen, Merlin	DT	6-5	270	36	15	Utah St.
49	Perry, Rod	CB	5-9	170	23	2	Colorado
39	Phillips, Rod	RB	6-0	220	24	2	Jackson St.
20	Preece, Steve	S	6-1	195	29	8	Oregon
64	Reynolds, Jack	LB	6-1	232	29	7	Tennessee
58	Robertson, Isah	LB	6-3	225	27	6	Southern
61	Saul, Rich	C	6-3	250	28	7	Mich. St.
33	Scribner, R.	RB-KR	6-0	200	25	4	UCLA
48	Simpson, Bill	S	6-1	180	25	3	Mich. St.
84	Snow, Jack	WR	6-2	190	33	12	Notre Dame
47	Stukes, Charlie	CB	6-3	212	33	9	Md. State
75	Williams, John	T	6-3	256	31	9	Minnesota
85	Youngblood, Jack	DE	6-4	255	26	6	Florida
53	Youngblood, Jim	LB	6-3	239	26	4	Tenn. Tech

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Bordelon, Ken	DE	6-4	235	21	LSU
Buie, Larry	S	6-0	180	21	Miss. State
Burleson, Al	S	6-2	180	21	Washington
Campbell, Mal	WR	5-11	180	22	Cal St. L.A.
Church, Geb	S	6-2	205	22	Stanford
Ekern, Carl	LB	6-3	220	21	San Jose St.
Gage, Rick	WR-KR	6-0	170	23	Ark. Tech
Hamilton, Steve	QB	6-4	196	22	Emporia
Jodat, Jim	RB	5-11	210	22	Carthage
Johns, Freeman	WR	6-1	175	22	SMU
McCartney, Ron	LB	6-1	220	21	Tennessee
McLain, Kevin	LB	6-2	238	22	Colo. St.
Nemeth, Brian	TE	6-5	224	21	So. Carolina
Scales, Dwight	WR	6-2	170	22	Grambling
Shaw, Gary	S	5-11	187	21	Brig. Young
Slater, Jackie	G	6-4	252	21	Jackson St.
Taylor, J.	WR-KR	6-2	187	23	Texas A&I
Thomas, Pat	CB	5-9	179	21	Texas A&M



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SAN FRANCISCO 49ers

PREDICTION 2nd

The quarterback twist the emotions of The City. In San Francisco the humor runs psychedelic and the cheers turn to boos faster than anywhere.

Jim Plunkett played quarterback for Stanford. Such a background is considered thoroughbred breeding on Nob Hill. It is regarded as blueblood down on the Wharf.

Frankie Albert went to Stanford. He was the first of the 49ers hero-villain quarterbacks. Y.A. Tittle went to Louisiana State, but ultimately he was forgiven. John Brodie was turned out by Stanford, too. The 49ers haven't been quite the same since he left.

Now it is Plunkett. He is rich in the aristocratic heritage as envisioned by the diehards of the 49ers. It is a love-hate relationship. John Brodie, when he

quarterbacked the 49ers to division titles, was hailed with accolades. And he was viciously jeered. Quite often the two disparate kinds of vocal outbursts occurred in the same game. From the same throats.

There were Sundays when Brodie left the field in San Francisco wearing his helmet. The citizens of this lovely city by the Bay would take their garbage to the football game. Just to heap upon Brodie.

Now it is Plunkett as the 49ers splash the graffiti: "New Coach . . . New Approach."

The new coach is Monte Clark. Clark is another of Don Shula's proteges from the staff in Miami. He replaced Dick Nolan, who'd won three Western titles in San Francisco in 1970-71-72.

Brodie retired, moving safely to the broadcast booth. Nolan thereupon became a lousier coach.

MONTE CLARK, Coach.

Assistants: Ed Beard, Floyd Peters, Ed Alsmann, Dick Enright, Jim Spavital, Doug Gerhart, Billy Atkins.

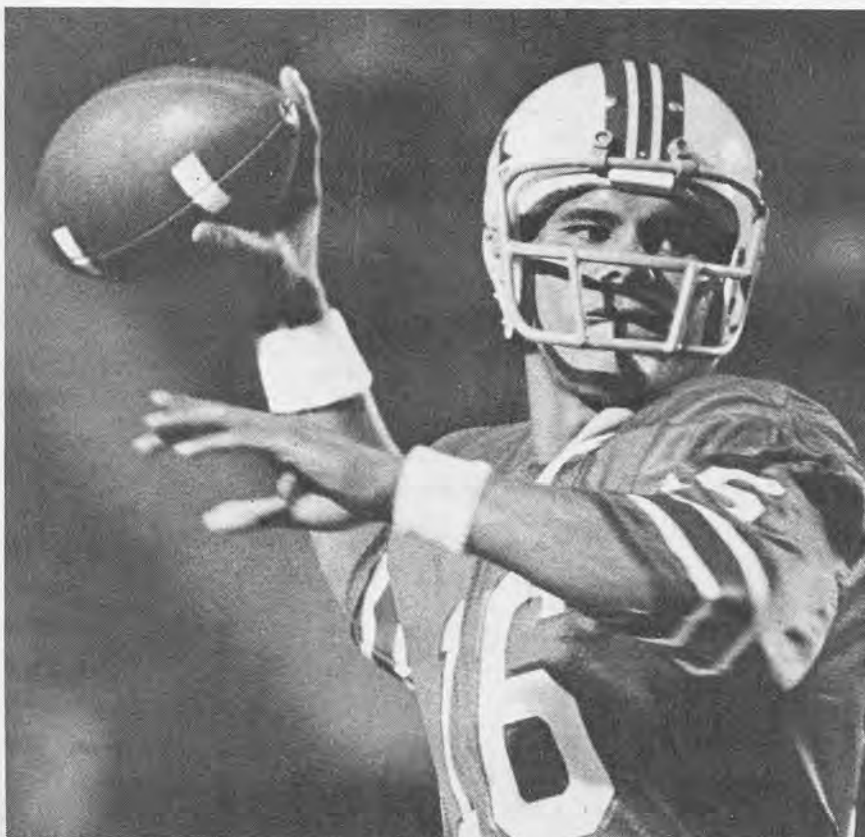
The quarterback also twists the fortunes of the head coach.

The last three seasons were losers for Nolan. The club struggled to a 5-9 record last year. Nolan tried maneuvering the aging Norm Snead, the disappointing Steve Spurrier and the tenderfooted Tom Owen in at quarterback. It was a goshawful season.

After it ended, Nolan was dumped—and so were two of his three quarterback helpers.

Spurrier was traded to the new Tampa Bay club. He had spent years as the presumptive heir to Brodie. Injuries and deficiencies damaged Spurrier's career. The 49ers finally gave up when Plunkett became available.

They paid a pretty price for Plunkett. The Patriots charged the San Francisco spendthrifts three No. 1 draft choices, a No. 2 plus the young potentially decent



JIM PLUNKETT, unhappy with Patriots, gives new hope to 49ers.



GENE WASHINGTON led 49ers in receptions with 44 last season.

quarterback Owen. Snead remains to backup Plunkett.

Plunkett had grown disgusted with the Patriots. He'd spent five years in New England after the Patriots had drafted him first off the board. It was the year three quarterbacks went first, second and third—Plunkett to New England, Archie Manning to New Orleans, Dan Pastorini to Houston.

The first to mature was Plunkett. For a while he was hailed in the category of Joe Namath, Bob Griese, Terry Bradshaw and the guys in the AFC. But he kept getting bruised running away from the rushers, scrambling, running options. He missed much of last year. Ultimately he demanded out from New England and Chuck Fairbanks' style.

"I think maybe's it's time for a change for me," Plunkett said. "I'm glad the 49ers were able to take advantage of obtaining me. I know there's a lot of work to be done and there's a lot expected of me. The situation in New Eng-

land was difficult because of the constant turnover in personnel and the front office.

"They want a quarterback to run and I don't consider myself a good running quarterback."

Plunkett had been considered the savior of the Patriots when he was drafted. No doubt he helped that franchise. Now he is regarded as the savior in San Francisco, back near home for him.

There was a terrible imbalance in the 49ers' offense in the past. Last year the running was so meager it netted 1300 yards less than the passing. Fifty-fifty is the supposed breakdown for a viable offense.

So Plunkett, who loves to throw, will do a lot of handing off and be responsible for much leadership.

He does have some marvelous receivers. There will be a reunion with the incomparable Gene Washington. Washington was Brodie's favorite in the title years, too. When Plunkett was a sophomore at Stanford, Washington was a senior. They connected for 71 pass completions, eight for touchdowns.

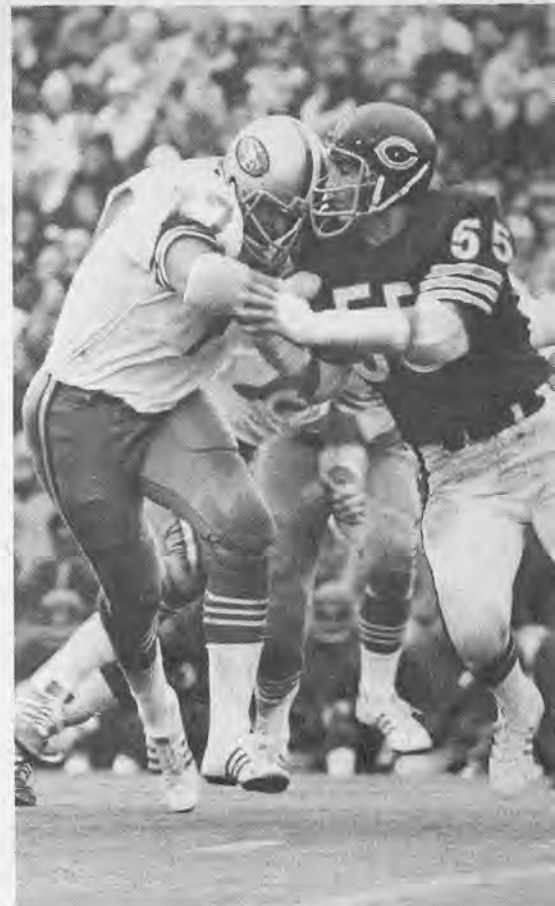
Outside in San Francisco with Washington is Terry Beasley, an outstanding ballhawk. The 49ers also have Willie McGee, who had been with the Rams and came from Tampa Bay in the arrangement for Spurrier.

Tom Mitchell plays a strong tight end, but there is a shortage of help for him.

The running must be on the upbeat under Clark. It is uncertain if the former running deficiencies could be blamed on inferior backs or poor blocking.

The 49ers claim they have a cadre of quality running backs so the onus has been placed officially on the linemen.

Delvin Williams was the top runner last year. His per rush average was 5.4, just a shade below league leader O.J. Simpson's. The 49ers are quick to point out that statistic. Larry Schreiber, a burster, ran most of the year alongside Williams. But Clark says Wilbur Jackson could be switched from halfback to fullback to team with Williams. Certainly Jackson is the 49ers'



JEAN BARRETT, 49ers, prevents advance by Bear DOUG BUFFONE.

TOM WITTUM averaged 41.9 yds. punting for San Francisco in 1975.



most dangerous back when fit. The club also has Kermit Johnson.

The maligned offensive line includes John Watson, Woody Peoples, Cas Banaszek, Bill Reid, Jean Barrett, Keith Farhnhorst and Jeff Hart. Center Randy Cross was drafted on the second round, the 49ers' highest choice. He could start.

Clark was an offensive lineman himself. A good one. He was Shula's offensive line coach with the Dolphins. That line was instrumental in the winning of two Super Bowls. If expertise can be passed along by teaching and coaching, Clark personally will redevelop the 49ers' line. The runners will cheer.

The defense does not need as many repairs as the offense. This is said with the assumption that Jimmy Johnson will return to play his 16th season at cornerback. Johnson remains the heart of the defense.

There is vigor along the defensive line. Cedrick Hardman, rush-

ing and boasting from the outside, is an annual Pro Bowl choice. Tommy Hart plays pincer from the other side. Bob Hoskins and Bill Sandifer are decent tacklers. There is depth in possible starter Jimmy Young and Cleveland Elam.

The 49ers' linebacking has not yet gotten over the retirement last year of Dave Wilcox. Dave Washington was acquired to replace him. The unit of Frank Nunley in the middle and Skip Vanderbunt and Washington returns in tact. Clark is sure to adopt Shula's 53 defense, which means playing four linebackers quite often. Greg Collins and newcomer Bruce Elia will play frequently, and either could become a starter.

The 38-year-old Johnson has been an All-Pro since antiquity. The secondary hinges on him. Bruce Taylor has his moments at the opposite, right, cornerback. The safety situation is eerie. Mel Phillips, an outstanding safety, has a propensity for broken arms. He has broken his arm five times in the last three years. But he is back, to try again and is a strong safety hitter. Ralph McGill, the other safety, also was hurt last year. So Timmy Anderson and Windlan Hall return as the incumbent starters. There is further secondary depth with Nate Allen, Mike Holmes, John Saunders and rookie Eddie Lewis.

CEDRICK HARDMAN, 6-4, 258, is seven-year veteran defensive end.



DELVIN WILLIAMS averaged 5.4 yards rushing during '75 campaign.

Steve Mike-Mayer is a long-range, not-always-accurate place kicker who should improve. Tom Wittum is one of the NFC's better punters.

The 49ers are a club with the talent to rise. Still, in The City as everywhere, the emotions and the coach's well-being twist on the quarterback.

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Steve Mike-Mayer, 69 points on 27 XP, 14 field goals	9th
RUSHING —Williams, 117 carries for 631 yds., 5.4 Avg., 3 TDs	13th
PASSING —Snead, 108 of 189 attempts for 1337 yds., 9 TDs	5th
RECEIVING —Washington, 44 receptions for 735 yds., 9 TDs	10th
INTERCEPTIONS —Taylor, 3 for 29 yds., 9.7 Avg.	36th
PUNTING —Wittum, 67 punts, 41.9 Avg., longest 64 yds.	2nd
PUNT RETURNS —Taylor, 16 for 166 yds., 10.4 Avg.	4th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Moore, 26 for 650 yds., 25.0 Avg.	5th

Pre-Season Games

Aug. 3	AT Seattle
8	DENVER
15	KANSAS CITY
21	San Diego at Honolulu (N)
29	OAKLAND
Sept. 4	AT Los Angeles (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12	AT Green Bay
19	CHICAGO
26	AT Seattle
Oct. 3	N.Y. JETS
11	AT Los Angeles
17	NEW ORLEANS
23	ATLANTA (N)
31	AT St. Louis
Nov. 7	WASHINGTON
14	AT Atlanta
21	LOS ANGELES
29	MINNESOTA
Dec. 5	AT San Diego
12	AT New Orleans

49ers' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
	Adams, Bob	TE	6-2	225	30	8	Pacific
27	Allen, Nate	CB	5-10	170	28	6	Tex. So'ern
26	Anderson, Tim	S	6-0	192	27	2	Ohio St.
79	Banaszek, Cas	T	6-3	255	30	9	No'western
77	Barrett, Jean	C-G	6-6	254	25	4	Tulsa
88	Beasley, Terry	WR	5-11	182	26	4	Auburn
55	Collins, Greg	LB	6-2	234	23	2	Notre Dame
72	Elam, Cleveland	DE	6-3	254	24	2	Tenn. St.
51	Elia, Bruce	LB	6-1	222	23	2	Ohio St.
89	Fahnhorst, Keith	T	6-6	265	24	3	Minnesota
82	Garrett, Len	TE	6-4	229	27	5	N. Mex. H'ds
	Goodman, Brian	G	6-2	250	27	3	UCLA
43	Hall, Windian	S	5-11	175	26	5	Arizona St.
86	Hardman, C.	DE	6-4	258	27	7	No. Tex. St.
59	Harper, Willie	LB	6-2	219	26	4	Nebraska
68	Hart, Jeff	T	6-5	266	22	2	Oregon St.
53	Hart, Tommy	DE	6-4	244	31	9	Morr. Brown
20	Holmes, Mike	WR-S	6-2	193	26	3	Tex. So'ern
56	Hoskins, Bob	DT	6-3	251	31	7	Wichita St.
40	Jackson, Wilbur	RB	6-1	215	24	2	Alabama
37	Johnson, K.	KR-RB	6-0	200	24	2	UCLA
47	Johnson, S.	KR-RB	6-0	223	23	3	No. Carolina
85	Larson, Bill	TE	6-3	225	22	2	Colorado St.
25	McGee, W.	KR-WR	5-11	178	26	4	Alcorn
49	McGill, R.	PR-S	5-11	183	26	5	Tulsa
10	Mike-Mayer, S.	K	6-0	178	28	2	Maryland
84	Mitchell, Tom	TE	6-3	215	32	10	Bucknell
57	Nunley, Frank	LB	6-2	234	30	10	Michigan
69	Peoples, Woody	G	6-2	252	33	9	Grambling
32	Phillips, Mel	S	6-2	191	34	11	N.C. A&T
14	Plunkett, Jim	QB	6-2	212	28	6	Stanford
63	Reid, Bill	C	6-1	242	24	2	Stanford
60	Sandifer, Bill	DT	6-6	278	23	3	UCLA
33	Saunders, John	S	6-2	196	26	5	Toledo
35	Schreiber, Larry	RB	6-0	209	28	6	Tenn. Tech.
16	Snead, Norm	QB	6-4	215	37	16	Wake Forest
44	Taylor, B.	PR-CB	6-0	189	28	7	Boston U.
52	Vanderbunt, S.	LB	6-3	223	29	8	Oregon St.
50	Washington, D.	LB	6-5	223	27	7	Alcorn
18	Washington, G.	WR	6-2	185	29	8	Stanford
29	Washington, J.	CB-RB	5-9	180	26	2	Illinois
67	Watson, John	G-T	6-4	245	27	6	Oklahoma
74	Webb, Jimmy	DT	6-5	248	24	2	Miss. St.
24	Williams, D.	RB	6-0	195	25	3	Kansas
13	Wittum, Tom	P-K	6-0	190	26	4	No. Illinois

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Ayers, John	T	6-5	238	23	W. Tex. St.
Brady, John	TE	6-3	230	27	Washington
Brumfield, Larry	CB	6-0	171	23	Indiana St.
Bull, Scott	QB	6-5	209	23	Arkansas
Chesley, Jay	SS	6-1	184	22	Vanderbilt
Cross, Randy	C-G	6-3	245	22	UCLA
Denson, Keith	WR	5-9	170	24	S. Diego St.
Graham, Jack	QB	6-4	208	25	Colorado St.
Harrison, Kenny	WR	6-0	170	22	SMU
Hofer, Paul	RB	6-0	186	24	Mississippi
Jenkins, Darrell	RB	6-2	230	24	S. Jose. St.
Johnson, Eric	S	6-0	195	24	Wash. State
Leonard, A.	CB-S	5-11	170	23	Va. Union
Lewis, Eddie	CB	6-0	172	22	Kansas
Lewis, Reggie	DE	6-1	248	22	S. Diego St.
Loane, John	K	5-11	185	23	Cal Poly
Loper, Gerald	G	6-2	245	22	Florida
Miller, Johnny	DT	6-2	241	22	Livingston
Mitchell, Dale	LB	6-3	211	23	So. Calif.
Pennywell, R.	LB	6-1	222	21	Grambling
Rivera, Steve	WR	5-11	190	22	California
Ross, Robin	T	6-5	251	21	Wash. State
Selfert, Ted	C	6-2	245	23	California
Stanley, Levi	DT	6-2	256	23	Hawaii
Stidham, Howard	LB	6-2	214	21	Tenn. Tech.
Worley, Rick	QB	6-2	195	26	How. Payne

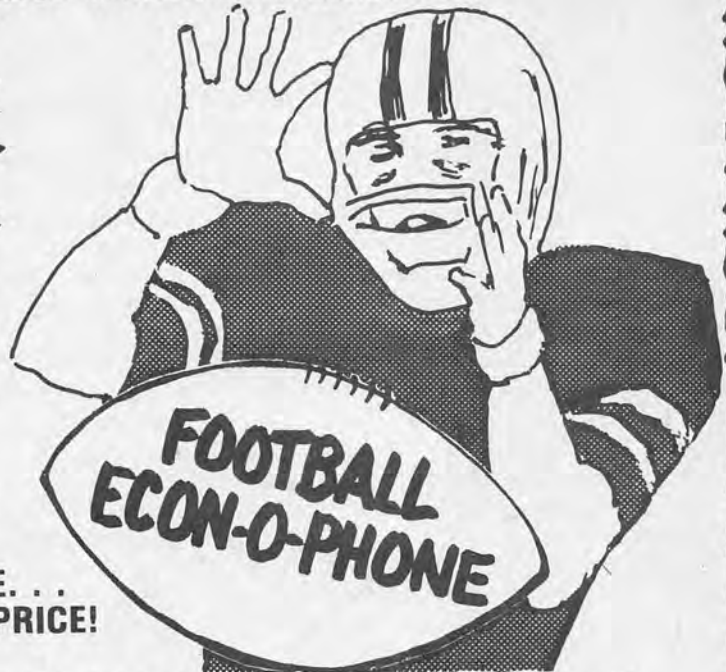
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ATLANTA FALCONS

PREDICTION 3rd

Football is more than a game of pure arithmetic. The proof of this fact is supplied by the Atlanta Falcons. This is a team, according to the mathematical myth, which should be very close to becoming a genuine contender. It would be about time, after years of experimentation and failure.

But the figures of the Falcons can fool those who believe faithfully in the statistical doctrines of the sport.

A year ago the Falcons almost trebled their touchdown production. They advanced from their woeful 12-touchdown production

CLAUDE HUMPHREY, DE, didn't play at all in 1975 due to injury.



of 1974 to a whopping 33 TDs in 1975. They had Steve Bartkowski as a rookie quarterback he invigorated the dormant offense.

But with the improvement of 21 touchdowns, more than a 150 percent increase, the Falcons managed just a single additional victory. The club that struggled to a 3-11 record on the 12-touchdown production of 1974 struggled to 4-10 on the 33 of 1975. The figures fooled. The pure arithmetic of addition turned into a bum calculator.

The defense was barely better. The Falcons turned into a profligate, foldup club.

It becomes the objective of Coach Marion Campbell to get more yield out of the better scoring in 1976. He blames the fold-ups on the Sundays on inferior concentration.

"We are going to have to learn to concentrate on the job that must be done," said Campbell, distressed by the new math. "We let some golden opportunities slip past us in 1975. And we can't let that happen in 1976."

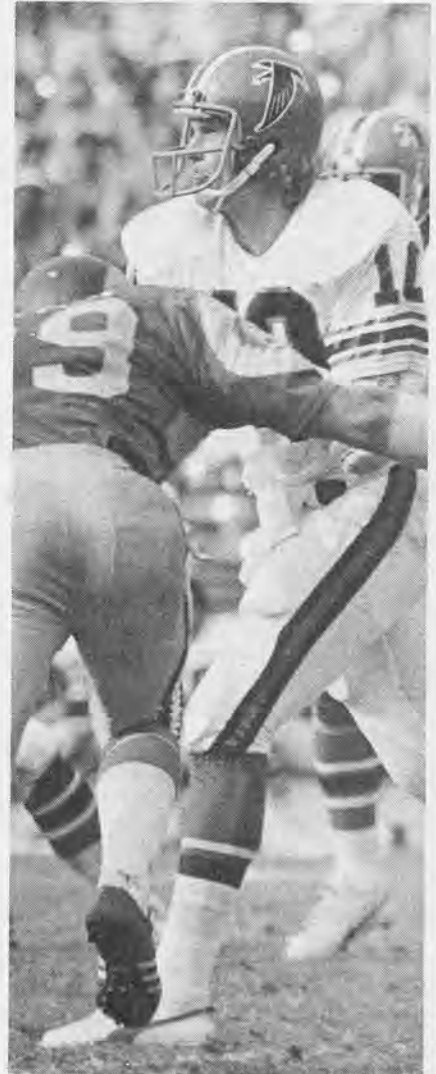
"We lost five games last season in a matter of three minutes 33 seconds. And I feel that with a little more effort from all of us we might have come out with those five and given our fans a bigger season."

So Campbell cites the mathematical data and how it can obscure reality. The Falcons, with more defense in the final moments of five ball games, could have been 9-5; not the dismaying 4-10. Three of the Falcons' losses were by three points. Another was by four. Another was by seven. Two others were by nine.

It hurt. But maybe now really the Falcons can be contenders for the first time in their 11-year history. It has been a history of futility since the Falcons were founded in the expansion of 1966.

"We must concentrate more if we hope to become the defensive team we once were," Campbell said. "And I want to see us return back to those days when we had

MARION CAMPBELL, Coach.
Assistants: Ed Khayat, Bill Walsh, Bill Nelson, Fred Bruney, Marv Matuszak, Jimmy Orr, Al Lavan.



STEVE BARTKOWSKI gave lift to Falcons as their rookie quarterback.

the hell-bent-for-leather type defenses."

Of those games lost in the final moments, perhaps some could have been won with stronger pass rush pressure. It is the best time of the ball to smear the passer, when he is in the two-minute offense. One such sack could kill the comeback offense, the type of enemy attack which ruined to the Falcons.

The Falcons lost their most feared pass rusher before the last season. Claude Humphrey tore his knee in the meaningless pre-season. He missed the entire year. More pointedly, the Falcons



DENNIS HAVIG (56), Falcons' offensive guard, shows the way for running back DAVE HAMPTON, who gained 1002 yards rushing in 1975.

missed Humphrey—and his pass rush—for the entire year. One athlete rarely is the difference in so many ball games. But Humphrey is a rare athlete.

He is back as good as new for 1976. Or better, he says himself.

"I look at him like another first-round draft choice," said Campbell. He might have understated the case. "We expect him to pick right up where he was when he got hurt. And where he was, was an All-Pro defensive end."

Claude Humphrey is a giant. Like so many premier defensive linemen, he ignores modesty. He is fairly frothing after missing an entire year and observing the frustration of the team while frustrated himself.

"Better than ever . . . better than ever, that's how I'm going to be in 1976," said Humphrey,

turned on. "And folks know what that means, especially those quarterbacks.

"They better watch out.

"Big Claude ached in 1975, but it's going to be somebody else's turn to hurt in 1976. I'm going to be better than ever. And so are the Falcons."

A returned Humphrey and a matured Bartkowski could give meaning to the pure arithmetic of the statistics.

The Falcons ransomed their franchise last year to draft Bartkowski first off the board. He was considered the finest quarterback prospect to join the pros since Jim Plunkett. Bartkowski was an immediate tonic for the offense. He was an achiever in a sport in which the mathematical data claims a quarterback needs four or five years to be productive.

"More concentration should definitely help our offense this season," Campbell said, returning to his core theme. "I think it is on the right road toward becoming a successive offensive unit. One thing we should bear in mind is we improved almost 10 points a game in 1975. . .

"While his statistics don't bear out the effectiveness of his passing, Bartkowski has all the tools to become a premier quarterback in the NFL. He took over the leadership of our club and did an outstanding job.

"He gave the finest performance I've ever seen a rookie quarterback give."

The rookie Bartkowski completed a mere 45 percent of his passes, 13 for touchdowns—more arithmetic. But the statistics do not include the total of dropped passes.

To cure this deficiency, the Falcons went into an auction for a premier receiver. They got themselves John Gilliam, one of the NFC's superior catchers. Gilliam is one of the moving free agents now unchained by the suspension of the Rozelle Rule. He was a winner in Minnesota; he could be in his hometown of Atlanta.

With Gilliam, the Falcons now have an outstanding corps of receivers. There is a battle for the other starting position among veterans Ken Burrow, Alfred Jenkins and Wallace Farmer.

Increasing the potency of the pass offense is Jim Mitchell, a double worker at tight end. He catches brilliantly and runs with the ball afterwards. And he is a strong blocker.

The offensive line has gotten better, even though George Kunz had to be paid out to Baltimore so the Falcons could draft Bartkowski. Center Jeff Van Note has become a Pro Bowler. Len Gottshalk, Royce Smith, Dennis Havig and Larron Jackson perform anonymously, but proficiently.

The running game is another plus. Few runners advance with the slashing ability of Dave Hampton. A few years ago when Norm Van Brocklin coached and stirred internal friction, Hampton ran for 1000 yards. It is a

treasured barrier and there was a ceremony. Then on his next carry Hampton lost yardage. He missed the Thousand-Yard elite by three yards. Last year he finally made it with permanence. He gained 1002 yards and qualified for an exclusive society of runners.

Haskel Stanback ran with Hampton last year and is the incumbent fullback. But the Falcons drafted for stronger running. They drafted Bubba Bean in the first round and Sonny Collins in the second. Each is a luminous prospect. The Falcons



JOHN ZOOK, defensive end, is a leading head hunter for Atlanta.

MIKE LEWIS does solid job at defensive tackle for the Falcons.



also have Woody Thompson returning and there is much competition in the backfield.

The return of Humphrey automatically bolsters the defense. The defensive line long has been a strength of the Falcons. With John Zook and Claude at the ends, the outside rush can be demoralizing. Mike Tillemann and Mike Lewis are fine inside at tackle. There is veteran depth with Jeff Merrow and Roy Hilton.

Tommy Nobis has suffered anguish through the years of futility as an original Falcon. He still plays middle linebacker with range and agility and some meanness. Greg Brezina and Fulton Kuykendall play the outside and they make it an adequate linebacking trio.

Rolland Lawrence and Ray Brown can be electrifying performers in the secondary. Lawrence, a cornerback, intercepted nine passes last year. Brown, the free safety, is one of the best in the NFC, Ray Easterling is strong as a veteran with starting hopes.

The kicking game is a problem. Nick Mike-Mayer needs

better accuracy as a place kicker. John James is a reliable punter, who went to the pro Bowl.

If all their arithmetic adds up, the Falcons could turn into a winning team. They might even be a legitimate contender, at last. But it takes more than mere numbers to win. The Falcons are proof.

FALCONS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
61	Adams, Brent	T	6-5	256	24	2	Chattanooga
10	Bartkowski, S.	QB	6-4	213	24	2	California
50	Brezina, Greg	LB	6-1	221	30	9	Houston
34	Brown, Ray	S	6-2	202	27	6	W. Tex. St.
82	Burrow, Ken	WR	6-0	191	28	6	S. Diego St.
38	Byas, Rick	DB	5-9	180	26	3	Wayne
47	Davis, Brad	RB	5-10	200	23	2	LSU
32	Easterling, R.	S	6-0	192	27	5	Richmond
46	Eley, Monroe	RB	6-2	210	27	2	Arizona St.
26	Esposito, Mike	RB	6-0	183	23	1	Boston Col.
89	Francis, W.	WR	5-11	190	25	4	Ark. AM&N
66	Fritsch, Ted	C	6-2	242	26	5	St. Norbert
42	Gilliam, John	WR	6-1	187	32	9	S.C. State
65	Gotshalk, Len	G	6-4	259	27	8	Humboldt St.
43	Hampton, Dave	RB	6-0	202	29	6	Wyoming
56	Havig, Dennis	G	6-2	256	27	6	Colorado
78	Hilton, Roy	DE	6-6	250	25	12	Ohio St.
87	Humphrey, C.	DE	6-5	265	32	9	Tenn. St.
6	Hunter, Scott	QB	6-2	205	28	6	Alabama
68	Jackson, Larron	G	6-3	260	27	6	Missouri
6	James, John	P	6-3	200	27	5	Florida
84	Jenkins, Alfred	WR	5-10	172	24	2	Mor. Brown
40	Jones, Bob	DB	6-2	193	25	4	Va. Union
54	Kuykendall, F.	LB	6-5	225	23	2	UCLA
22	Lawrence, R.	CB	5-10	179	25	4	Tabor
69	Lewis, Mike	DT	6-4	261	27	6	Ark. AM&N
29	Mabra, Ron	DB	5-10	164	25	2	Howard
88	McCrory, Greg	TE	6-3	230	24	2	Clark
11	McQuilken, Kim	QB	6-2	203	25	3	Lehigh
75	Merrow, Jeff	DE	6-4	230	23	2	West Va.
12	Mike-Mayer, N.	PK	5-9	187	26	4	Temple
86	Mitchell, Jim	TE	6-1	236	29	8	Pr. View
60	Nobis, Tommy	LB	6-2	243	33	11	Texas
55	Ortega, Ralph	LB	6-2	220	23	2	Florida
59	Russ, Carl	LB	6-2	227	23	2	Michigan
53	Ryzek, Paul	C	6-2	230	24	3	Virginia
64	Smith, Royce	G	6-3	250	27	5	Georgia
24	Stanback, H.	RB	6-0	210	24	3	Tennessee
7	Sullivan, Pat	QB	5-11	201	26	5	Auburn
48	Thompson, W.	RB	6-1	228	24	2	Miami
74	Tillemann, Mike	DT	6-7	278	32	10	Montana
57	Van Note, Jeff	C	6-2	247	30	8	Kentucky
39	Williams, Sam	DB	6-2	192	26	3	California
71	Zook, John	DE	6-5	249	29	8	Kansas

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Nick-Mike Mayer, 42 points on 30 XP, 4 field goals 24th
RUSHING —Hampton, 250 carries for 1002 yds., 4.0 Avg., 5 TDs 3rd
PASSING —Bartkowski, 115 of 255 attempts for 1662 yds., 13 TDs 11th
RECEIVING —Jenkins, 38 receptions for 767 yds., 20.2 Avg. 6th
INTERCEPTIONS —Lawrence, 9 for 163 yds., 19.1 Avg., 1 TD 2nd
PUNTING —James, 89 punts, 41.5 Avg., longest 75 yds. 3rd
PUNT RETURNS —Herron, 10 for 94 yds., 9.4 Avg. (also 12 Patriots) 12th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Francis, 14 for 265 yds., 18.9 Avg. 17th

Pre-Season Games

July 31	WASHINGTON (N)
Aug. 7	Cleveland at Stillwater, Okl.
14	Tampa at Jacksonville (N)
21	NEW ENGLAND (N)
28	BALTIMORE (N)
Sept. 3	AT Green Bay (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12	LOS ANGELES 7-16
19	AT Detroit 14-17
26	AT Chicago —
Oct. 3	PHILADELPHIA —
10	AT New Orleans 7-23
17	CLEVELAND —
23	AT San Francisco (N) 17-3
31	NEW ORLEANS 14-7
Nov. 7	AT Seattle —
14	SAN FRANCISCO 31-9
21	DALLAS —
28	AT Houston —
Dec. 4	AT Los Angeles 7-22
11	GREEN BAY 13-22

ROOKIES

*FREE AGENTS

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
85	Allen, Randy*	WR	6-1	190	23	Southern Wash. St.
91	Barschig, Carl*	TE	6-4	215	23	Texas A&M
44	Bean, Bubba	RB	5-11	195	22	Montana St.
8	Bolton, Pat	K	5-9	190	23	Cincinnati
27	Bonds, Andrew*	RB	6-0	207	22	Miss. St.
67	Brett, Walt*	G	6-5	241	23	West Va.
62	Brislin, Chuck*	T	6-3	238	22	E. Cen. Okla.
35	Burke, Mark	DB	6-1	175	22	Delaware St.
42	Chamberlain, V.*	TE	6-3	220	23	Winona
93	Chisolm, John*	WR	6-0	180	22	Kentucky
52	Clark, Wayne*	LB	6-0	220	22	Langston
41	Collins, Sonny	RH	6-1	196	23	Ohio St.
92	Cunningham, L.*	TE	6-3	230	22	Pittsburgh
51	Curto, Pat	LB	6-2	229	22	Grambling
80	Farmer, Karl	WR	5-11	165	22	Texas Tech
96	Favorite, Larry*	DT	6-7	285	23	Duke
25	Green, Tony	DB	6-2	186	24	St. Olaf
99	Hill, John*	DT	6-5	260	23	Iowa
98	Hill, Steve*	T	6-5	260	23	Wash. St.
23	Holmes, Bobby*	RB	6-1	235	23	Jackson St.
94	Husfloen, Mark	DE	6-4	231	22	S.C. State
97	Jackson, A.*	DE	6-5	239	23	E. Central U.
81	McCarthy, D.*	WR	6-1	175	23	UCLA
83	McClain, D.*	TE	6-3	235	23	E. Central U.
73	McKinney, P.	T	6-4	248	22	So. Calif.
37	Newsom, W.*	TE	6-4	225	23	Washington
70	Nunnally, Larry*	DT	6-1	255	22	Clark
30	Olson, Ron	DB	6-0	196	22	Kansas
28	Reed, Frank	DB	5-11	193	22	Arkansas
45	Roddie, Isaiah*	RB	5-11	180	23	Colorado
70	Scott, Dave	T	6-4	285	23	Va. St. Col.
21	Smith, Rollen*	DB	6-1	190	22	West Va.
75	Stripling, S.*	G	6-3	250	22	Brig. Young
53	Tennessee, H.*	LB	6-3	210	22	Brown
95	Van Halanger, D.*	T	6-6	265	23	Tulane
72	Varner, Stan	DT	6-4	245	24	Morgan
14	Violante, Jose*	K	5-8	165	23	Miles
36	Washington, W.*	DB	5-10	175	23	Florida
79	Wells, Angelo*	DE	6-3	235	23	Va. Union
31	White, Maurice*	RB	5-11	194	23	
77	Williams, Mike	T	6-3	249	23	
73	Williford, L.*	DT	6-4	250	23	

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NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

PREDICTION 4th

Professional football, to be analytical, is a game of stereotyped patterns on the surface of the fields. The teams, if they did not wear jerseys of different hues, would look alike. The diagrams in every offensive playbook are similar. The defenses are carbon copies of each other. It is a game lacking variation.

The coaches are parasites. One man invents something different. Two weeks later two score others have pirated the gambit. The techniques are all the same.

So there is a welcome for Hank Stram on his return to the sport. He provided insight in the broadcast booth last year just as he had provided variation on the field for 15 years as coach of the Chiefs.

In the worst kept secret of the year, the Saints hired Stram to structure their club last Super Bowl time. He is a strutting bantam of a man. He wears a waistcoat and carries a rolled up pro-

gram. He is always dapper, always clever, definitely different.

At Kansas City, he concocted the Moving Pocket, the Tight-End I, the Camouflage Slot, the stacked defense. He dared to play chess on the football field. He was successful. It, of course, helped to have such athletes as Leonard Dawson, Otis Taylor, Mike Garrett, Buck Buchanan, Willie Lanier and the others.

There is the imperishable mind picture of Stram wired for sound at Super Bowl IV, the final triumph of the AFL. The Chiefs were bedazzling the Vikings with their maneuvers and antics. The Vikings stumbled over one another in clownish pursuit.

"They look like they're in a Chinese fire drill out there," gurgled Stram.

It is well to be different and Stram was a glorified winner. But his wondrous Offense of the 70s bedazzled the opposition for one year. The stereotyped defenses, with their gradual changes, were not bamboozled for long.

HAND STRAM, Coach.

Assistants: Buck Buchanan, Jim Garrett, John Beake, Whitey Campbell, Alvin Roy, Sam Rutigliano, Doug Shively, Dick Stanfel, Dick Wood.

Then the talent atrophied in Kansas City. Hank Stram was gone after 15 years. He suffered the fate—the blade of the guillotine—of all coaches, most of them within three years.

In New Orleans, Stram inherits poorer material than he ever saw in nightmares at Kansas City. It will be an arduous, time-consuming job to structure this club which has been neglected and mismanaged. But Stram is the man to do the job. He must be patient, and that has not seemed to be one of his outstanding traits.

He naturally brought his magic slate to New Orleans and there are the mottos. Already there is Thunder and Lightning. Already there is The Dyn-O-Mite Gang. And soon there will be Stram's concoctions, what so many others shrug off as Rube Goldberg gimmickry.

"When you realize our offensive unit finished 13th statistically in our conference while the defense ranked sixth," Stram said, "it doesn't take much soul searching



CHUCK MUNCIE, left, and TONY GALBREATH, hope to live up to Thunder & Lightning billing given by the Saints to the rookie backs.



to determine that we were more deficient offensively. Accordingly we went into the draft with the expectation of correcting and improving upon this area of our performance."

For many years, the Saints relied on \$100 bargains in their backfield. They culled runners from the NFL waiver lists.

This year the Saints drafted running backs on the first two rounds. Their first six choices were used for offensive athletes.

Chuck Muncie and Tony Galbreath are the rookie runners. They have been dubbed Thunder and Lightning. Muncie unexpectedly was bypassed by Seattle's expansionists in the draft. He could be the best pro running prospect since O.J. Simpson. Muncie and Galbreath must oust incumbents Mike Strachan and Alvin Maxson to win starting jobs.

But the Saints admittedly are starting from scratch. And as Stram said the Saints had the weakest offense last year in the NFC.

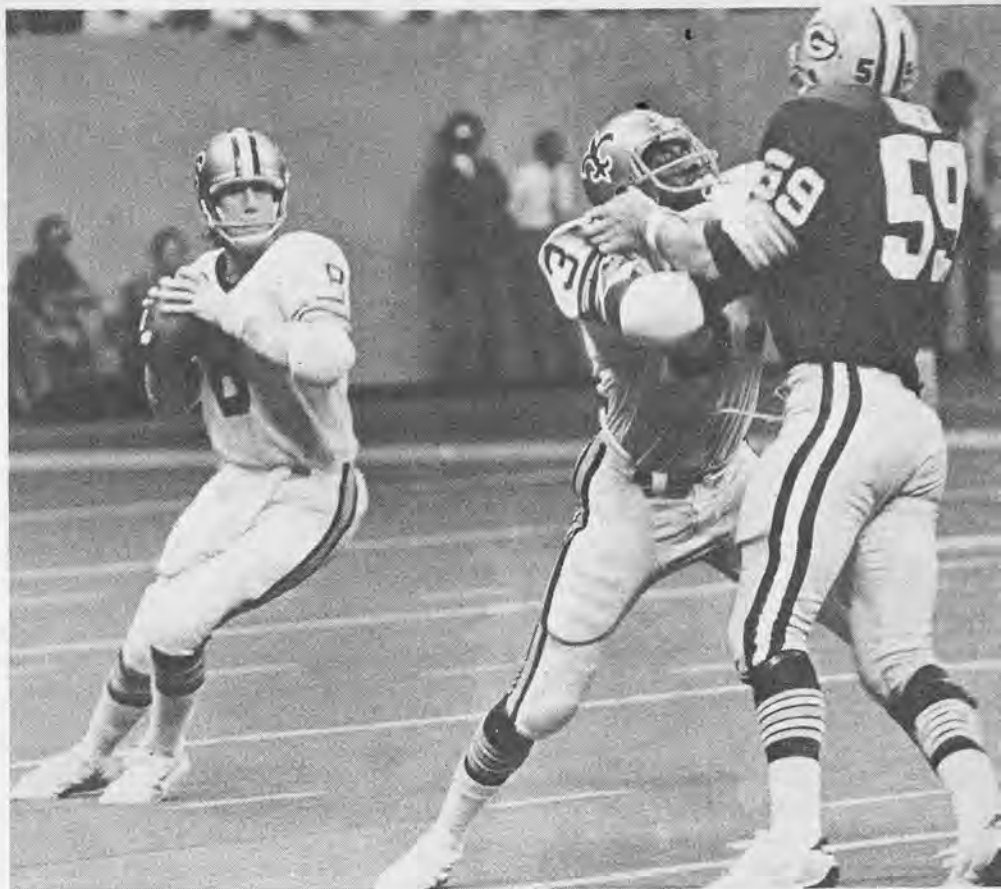
"We have brought in an entirely new system which will have to be taught," Stram said upon his trumpeted arrival in New Orleans.

"We'll feature a variety personality offense," he said later.

That presumably translates to an updated, remodeled Offense of the 70s. The tricks, the gimmicks—the machinations which confounded the opposition when there was sufficient talent to operate.

Stram has six quarterbacks on his roster. Four have generous pro experience. But Archie Manning, now a six-year veteran, is the logical starter. Manning never quite materialized as the catalyst for the Saints. But it took Lenny Dawson many years to become an achievement quarterback, too. Dawson ultimately became one of the finest under Stram.

Henry likes his quarterbacks to have some maneuverability. Manning certainly has more agility than Dawson did. In any case, Stram's first trade was to acquire Bobby Douglass from the Chargers. Douglass had been a No. 1 quarterback for the Bears, suffering, more adept as a running



ARCHIE MANNING, entering his sixth pro season as New Orleans QB, will be working under a new coach and system and fighting for No. 1 job.

QB than as a passer. Also on the roster are Bobby Scott, holdover backup, ex-Steeler Joe Gilliam, and youngsters Dean Carlson and Greg Kokal the rookie from Kent State.

Scott, perhaps, is symbolic of the sort of franchise the Saints have been since their expansion founding. He missed much of last year with an ankle sprain. He sprained the ankle tripping over a television cable during the pregame introductions in Green Bay.

The running should be upgraded with the addition of Muncie, who ran for 1460 yards and scored 15 touchdowns at California.

But the receiving, too, must be improved. At wide receiver, Stram has Larry Burton, Joel Parker, Bob Newland, Don Herrmann, Dave Davis and Charlie Wade. There isn't an Otis Taylor in the lot. Burton, last year's No. 1 draftee, was hurt much of the year. He caught only 16 passes. Rookie Tinker Owens, Steve's little brother, could be a gem draft choice as a receiver.

Paul Seal handles tight end capably.

In Stram's winning years at KC, the offensive line always was mammoth and vital. The Saints' line has to be vastly improved. The unit allowed 53 quarterback traps last year, a harrowing total. The returnees are Don Morrison, Emanuel Zanders, John Hill and Kurt Schumacher. Jake Kupp is a veteran who is trying to recapture a job. Bob Simmons, the No. 3 draft choice, is a likely rookie starter.

Stram's belief is the defense has some Dyn-O-Mite according to its sixth statistical ranking. But he said: "We must improve in all areas to establish a high level of consistency." It is a typical motivational quote from Stram.

The defensive line was somewhat nasty last year. Joe Owens has been lost to expansion. But returning are Andy Dorris, Derland Moore, Bob Pollard. Pollard, in particular, is an impressive defender, both vs. the run and

BOB POLLARD, 6-3, 250, helps make Saints' defensive line rugged.



anti-pass. Steve Baumgartner and Elois Grooms will be scrapping for a starting job and Elex Price wants to play as a regular.

The incumbent linebackers are Joe Federspiel in the middle and Wayne Colman and Greg Westbrook outside. There is heavy competition. Federspiel is an unsung, vigorous performer who would earn better recognition on a more talented club. But he is challenged by NFL vets Ron Hornsby and Bob Stein. Stram signed an abundance of free agents to provide camp scraps. Jim Merlo has starting experience and is back in the competition after recovery from a 1975 injury.

The enemy scored 25 touchdowns on passes last year. The secondary, like everywhere else, must be improved by Stram. Maurice Spencer, Ernie Jackson and Tommy Myers are holdovers. But there are challenges to all from such as Bivian Lee, Terry Schmidt, Benny Johnson, Chuck Crist, John Starkebaum, and a bunch of people Stram will try out when the other clubs begin to cut down process.

The impotency of the offense is certified by the punting statistics. Tom Blanchard punted a record 92 times last year. Stram had Jan Stenerud kicking and winning games in Kansas City. His question is can Rich Szaro or Ron Slovensky remind him of Stenerud? Szaro, out of Harvard, was picked up by the Saints in mid-stream last year and kicked well.

Slovensky comes from the WFL. Ultimately, Stram will manage the job in New Orleans, where he once won a Super Bowl by creating a Chinese fire drill. But for the present, the Saints will look more imaginative while losing. They will be a team with personality coached by a man with a super quality of it himself.

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Szaro, 47 points on 17 XP, 10 field goals	18th
RUSHING —Strachan, 161 carries for 668 yds., 4.1 Avg., 2 TDs	10th
PASSING —Manning, 159 of 338 attempts for 1683 yds., 7 TDs	15th
RECEIVING —Maxson, 41 receptions for 234 yds.	16th
INTERCEPTIONS —Myers, 5 for 83 yds., 16.6 Avg.	9th
PUNTING —Blanchard, 92 punts, 41.0 Avg., longest 61 yds.	5th
PUNT RETURNS —Chapman, 17 for 207 yds., 12.2 Avg.	2nd
KICKOFF RETURNS —Chapman, 28 for 614 yds., 21.9 Avg.	14th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 PITTSBURGH (N)
Aug.	7 AT Houston (N)
	13 AT Buffalo (N)
	20 AT Baltimore (N)
	28 CINCINNATI (N)
Sept.	4 MIAMI (N)

1976 SCHEDULE

Sept.	12 MINNESOTA
	19 DALLAS
	26 AT Kansas City
Oct.	3 HOUSTON
	10 ATLANTA
	17 AT San Francisco
	24 LOS ANGELES
	31 AT Atlanta
Nov.	7 AT Green Bay
	14 DETROIT
	21 AT Seattle
	28 AT Los Angeles
Dec.	5 AT New England
	12 SAN FRANCISCO

1975 Scores

7-20
—
—
—
23-7
21-35
7-14
7-14
20-19
—
—
14-38
—
6-16

SAINTS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
91	Barrios, Steve	WR	5-10	185	26	1	Tulane
63	Baumgartner, S.	DE	6-7	260	25	4	Purdue
16	Blanchard, Tom	P	6-0	180	27	6	Oregon
92	Bullock, Ron	TE	6-2	221	25	1	Va. Union
80	Burton, Larry	WR	6-1	190	24	2	Purdue
9	Carlson, Dean	QB	6-3	210	26	4	Iowa St.
51	Chambers, R.	LB	6-1	215	22	2	Tulane
89	Chapman, G.	WR-KR	5-9	180	23	2	Michigan
85	Childs, Henry	TE	6-2	223	25	3	Kansas St.
55	Coleman, Don	LB	6-2	222	24	3	Michigan
59	Coleman, Wayne	LB	6-1	220	30	8	Temple
44	Crist, Chuck	S	6-2	205	25	5	Penn St.
86	Davis, Dave	WR	6-0	175	28	5	Tenn. St.
69	Dorris, Andy	DE	6-4	240	25	4	New Mex. St.
10	Douglas, Bobby	QB	6-4	228	28	8	Kansas
39	Drake, Thomas	DB	5-11	180	24	1	Michigan
58	Federspiel, Joe	LB	6-1	235	26	5	Kentucky
24	Fuller, Johnny	S	6-0	185	30	9	Lamar
	Gilliam, Joe	QB	6-2	187	26	5	Tenn. St.
78	Grooms, Elois	DE	6-4	240	23	2	Tenn. Tech
56	Gross, Lee	C	6-3	245	23	2	Auburn
45	Hammond, Bob	RB	5-9	175	24	3	Morgan St.
87	Herrmann, Don	WR	6-2	205	29	8	Waynesburg
35	Hill, Ike	WR	5-10	180	29	6	Catawba
62	Hill, John	C	6-2	245	26	5	Lehigh
52	Hornsby, Ron	LB	6-3	228	27	5	SE La.
30	Jackson, Ernie	CB	5-10	175	26	5	Duke
22	Johnson, Benny	CB	5-11	178	28	5	J.C. Smith
36	Jones, Andrew	RB	6-2	213	23	2	Wash. St.
21	Jones, Mike	S	6-0	190	24	2	Virginia
53	Kingree, Rick	LB	6-1	230	27	6	Tulane
50	Kupp, Jake	G	6-3	248	35	13	Washington
67	LaPorta, Phil	T	6-4	256	24	3	Penn St.
11	Lee, Bivian	CB	6-3	200	28	6	Pr. View
8	Manning, Archie	QB	6-3	207	27	6	Mississippi
28	Maxson, Alvin	RB	5-11	205	24	3	S.M.U.
27	McNeill, Roc	RB	6-2	219	25	3	U.S.C.
57	Merlo, Jim	LB	6-1	225	24	3	Stanford
51a	Metz, David	G	6-2	245	23	1	Michigan
74	Moore, Derland	DT	6-4	260	24	4	Oklahoma
77	Morris, Chris	T	6-3	248	26	4	Indiana
76	Morrison, Don	T	6-5	260	26	6	Arlington
61a	Moshier, Gene	G-C	6-3	243	23	2	Vanderbilt
37	Myers, Tom	S	5-11	184	25	5	Syracuse
41	Newland, Bob	WR	6-2	190	27	5	Oregon
96	Nicholson, O.	LB	6-2	228	25	1	Tex. So'ern
43	Osley, Willie	CB	6-0	195	25	3	Illinois
88	Parker, Joel	WR	6-5	212	24	3	Florida
25	Pettiford, Ken	S	6-3	202	26	1	Tenn. St.
82	Pollard, Bob	DT	6-3	250	27	6	Weber St.
75	Price, Elex	DT	6-3	260	26	4	Alcorn St.
26	Rogers, Steve	RB	6-2	200	23	2	L.S.U.
40	Schmidt, Terry	CB	6-0	177	24	3	Ball St.
71	Schumacher, Kurt	G	6-3	260	23	2	Ohio St.
12	Scott, Bobby	QB	6-1	200	27	5	Tennessee
84	Seal, Paul	TE	6-4	222	24	3	Michigan
29	Spencer, M.	CB	6-0	175	24	3	N. C. Central
48	Starkebaum, John	S	6-1	213	24	1	Nebraska
54	Stein, Bob	LB-K	6-3	235	28	8	Minnesota
33	Strachan, Mike	RB	6-0	195	23	2	Iowa State
90	Strada, John	TE	6-3	230	23	3	Wm. Jewell
15	Szaro, Rich	K	5-11	205	28	2	Harvard
32	Thomas, Charlie	KR	5-9	185	25	2	Tenn. St.
93	Wade, Charlie	WR	5-10	164	26	3	Tenn. St.
64a	Walters, Bob	LB	6-2	230	25	1	No. Carolina
94	West, Robert	WR	6-4	218	25	4	S. Diego St.
60	Westbrooks, G.	LB	6-2	215	23	2	Colorado
66	Wickert, Tom	G	6-4	246	24	3	Wash. St.
46	Williams, Ken	S	6-2	199	24	1	SW La.
79	Zanders, Emanuel	G	6-1	260	25	3	Jackson St.

ROOKIES

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
69a	Barwick, Billie	G	6-1	245	22	Wisconsin
64	Bauer, Ed	G	6-2	249	23	Notre Dame
73a	Brown, Ken	G	6-3	244	22	New Mexico
65	Butts, Milton	OT	6-4	244	23	N. C. Central
23	Cassady, Craig	S	5-10	178	23	Ohio St.
32	Davis, Derral	RB	6-0	185	23	Arizona
19	Downing, Ken	S	5-10	180	22	Missouri
72a	Early, Harold	DT	6-4	268	23	SW La.
34	Galbreath, Tony	RB	6-0	232	22	Missouri
97	Hardin, Junior	MLB	6-1	235	23	East. Ky.
61	Hucke, Richard	DE	6-5	260	22	West Mont.
95	Jones, Gene	OT	6-5	260	22	Bowl. Green
7	Kemble, George	K	5-11	180	22	Colorado St.
18	Kokal, Greg	QB	6-1	180	21	Kent St.
99	MacDonald, S.	TE	6-5	225	23	West Va.
65a	Meier, Dave	LB	6-0	228	21	Duke
42	Muncie, Chuck	RB	6-3	230	23	California
83	Owens, Tinker	WR	5-11	170	21	Oklahoma
6	Palmer, Rick	K	6-2	260	23	So. Miss.
72	Parrish, Scott	OT	6-6	270	24	Utah
73	Peiffer, Warren	DT	6-5	260	23	Iowa
52a	Polak, James	C	6-2	232	22	Purdue
98	Seminoff, Steve	DT	6-3	243	24	Wichita
70	Simmons, Bob	OT	6-4	254	22	Texas
17	Simmons, Marvell	S	6-3	190	26	Tex. So'ern
14	Slovensky, Ron	K	5-7	160	24	Jacksonville
68	Stieve, Terry	G	6-2	250	22	Wisconsin
60a	Tipton, Thomas	G	6-3	240	22	Cerritos
81	White, Dana	DE	6-5	245	23	Long Beach
55a	Windisch, R.	C	6-2	230	22	Arizona

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SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

PREDICTION 5th

Before the Seattle Seahawks had a coach or a player or owned a football or an airpump, they had money in the bank from 59,000 season tickets sold.

Orders came from Alaska, 500 miles far away.

One customer sent in his ticket order from a prison cell.

"My sentence will be up before you start playing," said the convict-fan.

The Pacific Northwest had been the one corner of the nation untouched before by the professional football boom. At last, in another expansion, the NFL invaded the only untapped market. The people of Seattle and the entire Northwest from Portland to Juneau are lapping it up.

Where have you been Pete Rozelle? Waiting for the Kingdome, for some civic push, for a place for a team to play.

So the hardy people of the Northwest have the sport they yearned for so long. And now we will see how hardy they are. Their love for pro football will be tested severely. Their patience will be stretched. Like all supporters of expansion clubs they must not be wild-eyed with optimism at the beginning.

But there is hope. It is certifiably feasible for expansion clubs to do well with relative speed. Miami was in the Super Bowl six years after the Dolphins were established. Cincinnati was in the playoffs in three years. The Cowboys and Vikings were expansion clubs. Then there have been the Falcons and Saints. They were born in the mid-60s and still have not managed a winning season.

It can be either way in Seattle, promising or desperate. To be sure it will be desperate, futile, folly, absurd at first. But the Seahawks need only appear in their silver, blue and green uniforms to seduce the Seattle fans this year. It took nearly a decade for the football folks of Atlanta and

New Orleans to proclaim their disenchantment.

The basic need is strong management. It is anywhere in pro football. The expansion clubs which won in six or eight years possessed that imperative requirement. Old established clubs still fail because their lack of the right leadership and player procurement smarts.

It looks as if the Seahawks do have the management intelligence. The first men the franchise hired were John Thompson to be general manager and Mark Duncan as his assistant in charge of hiring players. They are fine men, rooted in the NFL.

There was plenty of money in the register, but still no footballs in the property bag when the Seahawks hired their first coach. He is Jack Patera, also steeped in an NFL background. Patera built the defense of the Vikings and before that the Rams. He came to Seattle stating defense was the priority.

At last, the Seahawks added the players the people had already paid their money to see. The veteran player allocation was no better than in previous expansion drafts. The Seahawks, and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers too, wound up with motley crews. The NFL traditionally is not generous with its new members who pay the \$16 million franchise fee.

"Controlled optimism," is the motto Patera has created for this inaugural year.

The Seahawks did get one star name out of the 38 selected from the other NFL clubs. He is Mike Curtis, who had been an All-Pro middle linebacker dropped into disfavor in Baltimore.

They shunned another name player in the college draft—runner Chuck Muncie. Instead, they drafted Notre Dame's Steve Niehaus. The plan is to build a defensive line around Niehaus. It is not a bad idea. The Seahawks did not need a star name to lure the

JACK PATERA, Coach.

Assistants: Larry Peccatiello, Jerry Rhome, Andy MacDonald, Sam Boghosian, Bob Hollway, Earl Leggett.

people. Not with 59,000 guaranteed ticket holders for the Kingdome and a waiting list of 5,000 season supplicants. The Seahawks already wise in business, cut the season list before the 65,000-seat Kingdome capacity to spread single game tickets among the populace. Builds up a more faithful, patient clientele.

"We have to control our optimism," said Patera. "We must

MIKE CURTIS, the ex-Colt, is an experienced middle linebacker.





STEVE NIEHAUS, Seattle's top pick, anchors the defensive line.

remember that while we feel our collegiate draft was very successful the reason we have the 38 veterans is that other teams thought them expendable."

That is as honest a documentation of the low quality of the players in the veteran allocation a man can provide.

The fans will not have too many opportunities to cheer for touchdowns. The offense will consist of many culls, castoffs, discards, rejects, and drifters.

Plainly, the Seahawks emerged from the veterans and college drafts desperately hardup for a quarterback: Patera said he was going for defense first—and he sure did. The veteran quarterbacks who came out of the allocation were Gary Keithley from St. Louis and Neil Graff from New England. Neither could be identified by the 59,000 season ticket holders. Neither was more than third string before in the NFL. Off the records, Graff would have to be rated No. 1 until beaten out. Keithley hasn't played a down for three years.

There also are four rookies led by Steve Myer, who was a fourth-round choice with some credentials from New Mexico. A lot of other rookies and waiver cuts will drift through.

The running back corps is equally as famous. Bill Olds

played back up three years with the Colts. Kerry Marbury played in Canada. Gary Hayman was O.J. Simpson's substitute in Buffalo.

The Seahawks acquired one of the year's top free agents to play wide receiver—Ahmad Rashad, who had played out his option at Buffalo. Dave Williams, with NFL experience, could be the other wide receiver. So could Sam McCullum or Bob Picard, both with NFL backgrounds. The tight end is most likely going to be John McMakin, who has been a regular at times. Rookies Sherman Smith and Steve Raible are other receivers.

The oddities of forming an expansion team are such that the offensive linemen are better known than the runners and quarterbacks. The Seahawks plucked Norm Evans, a three-time starter in the Super Bowl with the Dolphins, in the allocation. They

acquired others such as John Demarie, Gordon Jolley, Rocky Rasley, Fred Hoagland and Bob Penchion from other clubs, plus John Didion. Randy Johnson is the top rookie.

"Defensively, we got some good players with talent and good experience," said Patera.

"Normally an NFL team figures that your first, second and third draft choices have a good chance to make the team. We'd probably say that about our first seven. In fact, you can figure that there will be more than seven rookies making this team."

The Seahawks had seven draft choices in the first three rounds. Behind Niehaus, they drafted linebacker Sammy Green and receivers Smith and Raible on the second round; and defensive end Jeff Lloyd, punter Rick Engles and place kicker Don Bitterlich on the third.

"Niehaus obviously gives us

KEN GEDDES, veteran linebacker, came to Seattle from the LA Rams.





STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL

SEATTLE COACHING STAFF (l-r): Larry Peccatiello, head coach and former Rams and Vikings assistant **JACK PATERA**; Andy MacDonald, Sam Boghosian, Bob Hollway, Jerry Rhome, and at the top, Earl Leggett.

SEAHAWKS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs.	College
78	Baker, Wayne	DT	6-6	269	23	2	Brig. Young
74	Barisch, Carl	DT	6-4	255	25	4	Princeton
63	Bebout, Nick	T	6-5	260	25	4	Wyoming
28	Blackwood, Lyle	DB	6-0	190	25	4	Tex. Chris.
38	Bradley, Ed	LB	6-2	239	26	4	Wake Forest
37	Brown, Dave	DB	6-1	190	23	2	Michigan
88	Clune, Don	WR	6-3	195	24	3	Pennsylvania
35	Colbert, Randy	DB	5-9	165	22	2	Lamar
26	Crump, Dwayne	DB	5-11	180	26	4	Fresno St.
32	Curtis, Mike	LB	6-2	232	33	12	Duke
23	Davis, Jerry	DB	5-11	182	25	2	Morr. Brown
65	Demarie, John	G	6-3	248	31	10	La. State
63	Den Boer, Greg*	TE	6-6	240	23	1	Michigan
51	Didion, John	C	6-4	255	29	7	Oregon St.
71	Douglas, Jay	C	6-6	240	26	3	Memphis St.
73	Evans, Norm	T	6-5	250	34	12	Tex. Chris.
69	Freelon, Solomon	G	6-3	246	25	4	Grambling
36	Geddes, Ken	LB	6-3	235	29	6	Nebraska
11	Gerela, Ted	K	5-10	195	31	1	Wash. State
15	Graff, Neil	QB	6-3	200	26	3	Wisconsin
58	Hansen, Don	LB	6-2	228	32	10	Illinois
21	Hayman, Gary	RB	6-1	202	25	3	Penn St.
53	Hoaglin, Fred	C	6-4	250	32	11	Pittsburgh
86	Houston, Bill	WR	6-3	210	25	2	Jackson St.
87	Howard, Ron	TE	6-4	225	25	3	Seattle U.
59	Hutcherson, Ken	LB	6-0	225	24	2	Livingston
64	Jolley, Gordon	T-G	6-5	245	27	5	Utah
12	Keithley, Gary	QB	6-3	215	25	4	Tex. El Paso
76	Lewis, Stan	DE	6-4	245	23	2	Wayne St.
90	Lide, Bill	WR	5-11	180	26	1	Johnson C.S.
29	Matthews, Al	DB	5-11	190	29	7	Texas A&I
84	McCullum, Sam	WR	6-2	203	24	3	Montana St.
81	McMakin, John	TE	6-3	225	26	5	Clemson
41	McMillan, Eddie	DB	6-0	190	25	4	Fia. State
39	Olds, Bill	RB	6-1	222	25	4	Nebraska
72	Owens, Joe	DE	6-2	250	30	7	Alcorn A&M
67	Pencheon, Bob	G	6-6	252	27	5	Alcorn A&M
82	Picard, Bob	WR	6-3	205	27	4	East. Wash.
66	Rasley, Rocky	G	6-3	255	29	7	Oregon St.
75	Tipton, David	DE-DT	6-6	246	27	6	Stanford
	Williams, Dave	WR	6-3	215	31	8	Washington
70	Woods, Larry	DT	6-6	270	28	7	Tenn. St.
45	Woolsey, Rolly	DB	6-1	182	23	2	Boise St.

* 7 Years—Canadian Football League

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Barnett, Ron	WR	5-11	183	23	T. Arlington
Bates, Larry	RB	6-0½	218	22	Miami
Bitterlich, Don	K	5-7	166	22	Temple
Blinks, Jarvis	DB	5-11¾	184	22	N.W. State
Bolton, Andrew	RB	6-1	205	22	Fisk
Bos, Bob	T	6-5	258	22	Iowa State
Coffield, Randy	LB	6-3	215	23	Florida St.
Darby, Alvis	T	6-4½	216	22	Florida
Dixon, Dick	DT	6-6	240	22	Arkansas St.
Dufek, Don	DB	6-0	195	22	Michigan
Engles, Rick	P	5-10	170	22	Tulsa
Green, Sammy	LB	6-2	228	22	Florida
Johnson, Randy	G	6-2	250	23	Georgia
Jones, Ernie	DB	6-3	180	23	Miami
Lloyd, Jeff	DE	6-6	255	22	W. Tex. St.
Muehr, Keith	P	5-11	189	23	S.W. Louisiana
Myer, Steve	QB	6-2	188	22	New Mexico
Niehaus, Steve	DT	6-4	270	22	Notre Dame
Raible, Steve	WR	6-1½	195	22	Georgia Tech.
Reid, Andy	RB	6-0	194	22	Georgia
Rowland, Chris	QB	6-1¾	212	24	Washington
Shipp, Larry	WR	6-2½	181	22	Louisiana St.
Smith, Dan	T	6-3	257	23	Wash. State
Smith, Sherman	WR	6-4	217	22	Miami (Ohio)
Urczyk, Jeff	G	6-2½	238	21	Georgia Tech.

FREE AGENTS

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs.	College
	Boyd, Skip	P	6-1	205	23	1	Washington
	Cason, Bob	QB	6-1	190	27	1	Puget Sound
	Christman, S.	QB	6-2	200	24	1	Oklahoma St.
	Copeland, D.	RB	5-11	175	24	1	Mid. Tenn. St.
	Douglas, Jay	C	6-6	260	26	3	Memphis St.
	Didion, John	C	6-4	255	29	7	Oregon St.
	Freelon, Sol	G	6-3	246	25	4	Grambling
	Gerela, Ted	PK	5-10	195	31	1	Wash. St.
	Houston, Bill	WR	6-3	210	25	2	Jackson St.
	Fonteno, Dave	LB	6-2	230	24	1	Texas So.
	Haigler, Allen	G	6-3	220	26	1	Tenn. State
	Howse, Larry	DB	6-1	195	25	1	Tenn. State
	Lilja, Larry	C	6-2	245	23	1	No'western
	Lewis, Stan	DE	6-4	245	23	2	Wayne St.
	Lide, Bill	WR	5-11	180	26	1	J. C. Smith
	Riegel, Gordon	LB	6-5	230	22	1	Stanford
	Williams, Dave	WR	6-3	215	31	8	Washington
	Zorn, Jim	QB	6-2	200	23	1	Cal Poly

more quality in the defensive line," Patera said. "As a rookie he may not perform as well as he and the spectators might like. He's mature enough to know he will get both credit and criticism he doesn't deserve."

With Niehaus and Lloyd on the line are castoff vets Joe Owens, Dave Tipton, Carl Barisch, Larry Woods and Wayne Baker. It will be a while before the Seahawks have the kind of rush Patera did in Minnesota.

"I love to shuffle linebackers' names on paper," Patera said. "They look so good. The best quality on this team is most likely at linebacker."

There is Curtis leading the defense. "He's probably the premier middle linebacker in the league," said Patera, hardly con-

trolling his optimism.

Sammy Green figures soon to be a starter, an outstanding prospect. Ken Geddes was a regular with the Rams, so he is a shoo-in at Seattle. Other veterans are Don Hansen, Ed Bradley and Ken Hutcherson.

It will be a problem whittling down a secondary capable of NFL pass defense standards. Eddie McMillan started with the Rams. Al Matthews started with Green Bay. Dave Brown was a prize prospect with Pittsburgh. Lyle Blackwood, Steve Taylor, Jerry Davis and Dwayne Crump are other vets. Don Dufek, a fifth-round draftee, should stick.

The kicking likely will go to high draftees Engles, the punter, and Bitterlich, the placement kicker. Ted Gerela has a shot at place kicker.

So now with the money in the bank, the Seahawks have a coach, players—and a football. Unfortunately, under league rules, Pete Rozelle must insist the Seahawks blow it up and play with it.

Pre-Season Games	
Aug.	1 SAN FRANCISCO
	7 CHICAGO (N)
	14 LOS ANGELES (N)
	21 AT Denver (N)
	29 SAN DIEGO
Sept.	4 AT Oakland (6 pm)

1976 SCHEDULE	
Sept.	12 ST. LOUIS
	19 AT Washington
	26 SAN FRANCISCO
Oct.	3 DALLAS
	10 AT Green Bay (Milw)
	17 AT Tampa Bay
	24 DETROIT
	31 AT Los Angeles
Nov.	7 ATLANTA
	14 AT Minnesota
	21 NEW ORLEANS
	28 AT N.Y. Giants
Dec.	5 CHICAGO
	12 AT Philadelphia



EDDIE McMILLAN, ex-Ram, was a starting cornerback for the Rams.

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DETROIT LIONS

RICK FORZANO, Coach.

Assistants: Bob Gibson, Ken Shipp, Jerry Glanville, Bruce Beatty, Joe Bugel, Jim Carr, Fritz Shurmur, Art Zeleznik, Floyd Reese.

PREDICTION 1st

Second place! "I detest that position," said Rick Forzano, a little man with vision in one eye and the positive faith of an evangelist.

He hates second place so much he has positioned his own neck beneath the blade of the guillotine. The Lions are chronic runners up. They have finished second in the Central Division seven straight seasons. They couldn't go up. They didn't go down.

Forzano stood before a Detroit audience at the end of the seventh second-place season. These are fickle fans who have been bamboozled through the years by a blooper-prone organization.

"In the next two years we'll win the championship, I promise you that," said Forzano. "If not, you'll be looking for another football coach." He meant the Central title, always so near and far.

The audience's shocked silence was deafening. Inertia . . . Fut-

lity . . . Mediocrity . . . Anarchy—the Four Horsemen of self-devastation had afflicted this franchise for years.

"You have to win championships in this league," Forzano said.

Perhaps Forzano's mouthings are folderol. Maybe he speaks meaningless prattle.

But suddenly in 1976 the Lions are a formidable football team with formidable talent. They were 7-7 the last two seasons under Forzano. Now they are picked to win their division. They have to make up five games on the Vikings, the dominant team for a decade in this division. There was a gigantic gap between the Vikings and the Lions.

The Lions are young and improving. The Vikings are decrepit and ready to drop. Eliminating the five-game spread between the two archrivals is not so outlandish

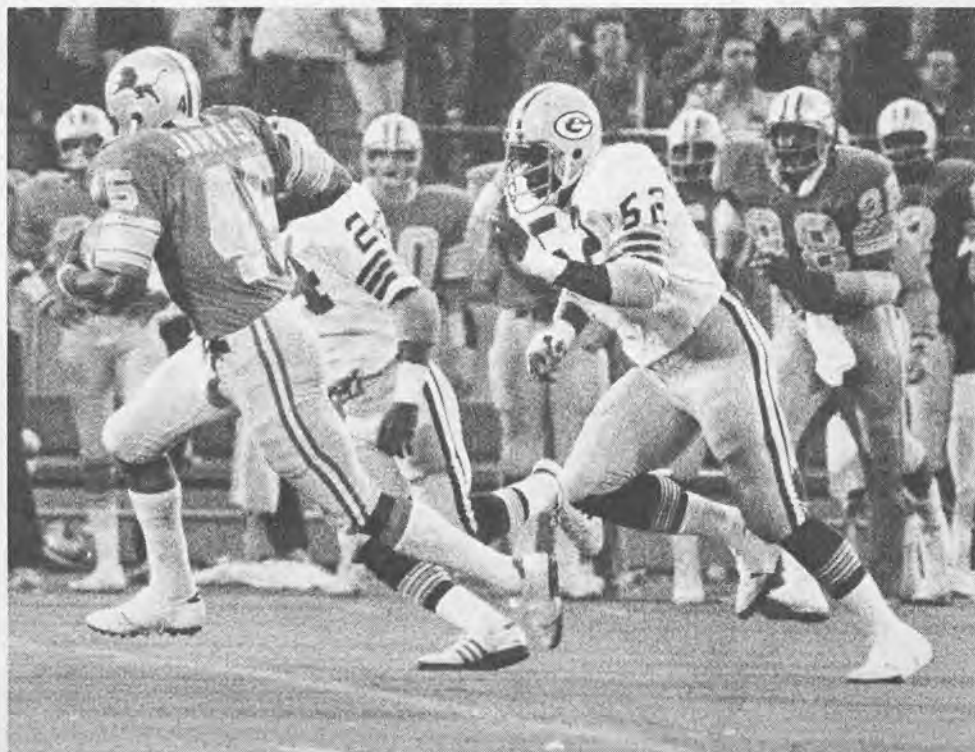
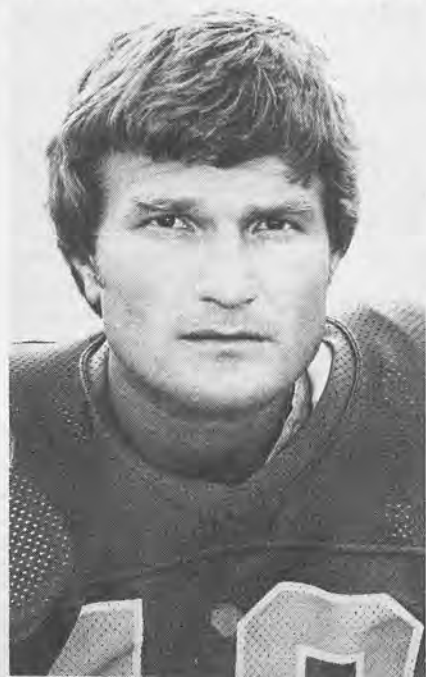
as it appears. The Vikings, indeed, could fall much of the distance by themselves.

The playoffs is a realistic goal for Forzano and Detroit. The inertia has been rubbed out. The team no longer appears futile. The mediocrity has vanished. The anarchy has remained—but Forzano subdued it and in doing so gained strength and stature as a coach. He put down a budding player insurrection last year. His bantam size and glad-hand friendship are foolers. He is a burning disciplinarian. But in slapping down his rebels among his players he built cohesiveness and gained respect.

Once the Lions endured seven seasons, 13 successive games, in which they lost the Minnesota. But now the Lions have beaten the Vikings once each of the past two seasons in their personal tong wars. They manhandled Francis

RAY JARVIS, Lions' WR, is off for a touchdown run against Packers.

BILL MUNSON again fights for Detroit's No. 1 quarterback spot.



Tarkenton and the Vikings late last year. At the time, the Lions were decimated by an injury plague.

The Lions have developed into a team with an arrogant defense—and now have a rehabilitated offense.

There were so many injuries last year 34 different players started games for Detroit. The byproduct of the injuries of '75 is more experienced athletes than the Lions can employ in '76.

In one terrifying game last October, the Lions lost both regular quarterbacks, Bill Munson and Greg Landry, to the knee surgeons. Forzano pumped up Joe Reed, an obscure quarterback who had been drummed out of San Francisco. Reed won the next three games as the emergency quarterback. Later in the season he outdueled Tarenton.

And Forzano acquired a gaggle of believers in his evangelism.

"We'll improve," Forzano said. "The defense will be even better than it was in '75 due to its familiarity with our then-new concept which was to allow them to be more aggressive.

"The offense should develop more consistency since the injured players all will return. We will strike to make more big plays in 1976. We have one goal: the championship."

Repeat . . . he means the Cen-

tral title, always so near and far.

Munson and Landry have returned from the hospital. They resume their annual competition for the Lions' No. 1 quarterbacking post. It is the eighth year of this preseason event that could be divisive to a football team. It has split the city—and sometimes the team, each quarterback the favorite of some.

Provided both are healthy, Munson is Forzano's favorite quarterback. Munson, displaying stronger victory and leadership traits late in his career, is a drop-back stylist. Forzano has preferred that in his quarterback, though he does not make such proclamations public. Landry, now a nine-year vet, always has had a proclivity for running. Since both quarterbacks damaged their knees in the same game at Houston, Forzano would want them to shun running forever.

Hence Munson figures to be No. 1 while Landry sulks as the backup again. Yet there will always be the temptation to use Landry, who has been an inspirational pick-me-up for the Lions during the years.

With Munson and Landry back, Reed, a heroic figure in '75, is relegated to third string again.

The Lions traditionally have had a taboo—a phobia actually—about trading major personalities.

Such is the case still with the end of the tunnel near. So they have avoided any trade at a surplus position which could have strengthened them elsewhere. Instead this is a draft-devoted team. Poor drafts in the early 1970s, when the club fell after an ascent, were damaging. But this situation has been remedied by two strong drafts in 1975 and 1976. For the '76 draft the Lions stockpiled high choices. They had the luxury of drafting twice in each of the first three rounds.

"Our first six choices have the potential to help us toward our championship goal," said Forzano. That word again.

The top six choices were split four for offense, two for defense. It is the offense that needs to be upgraded.

The Lions had been short of running backs a year ago. Now they have plenty. Dexter Bussey, in his first regular season, developed into a slashing, productive runner. He gained 695 yards and Munson flatly predicted Bussey would gain 1000 yards this year. Altie Taylor, who asked to be traded, returns to run with him. Taylor gained 638 yards in a switch to fullback from his old halfback position. He could return to halfback.

Steve Owens, who missed all of 1975 recovering from knee

LEM BARNEY showed he was the all pro cornerback of old in 1975.



CHARLIE WEST, HERB ORVIS and PAUL NAUMOFF of Lions, gang up on TERRY METCALF Cardinals speedy back, during 1975 contest.



miserics, is said to be sound. He was a power fullback who became the only Thousand-Yard runner in the club's history five years ago by piling up yardage in small segments.

Owens must be considered questionable until he survives the tests of the preseason. As a precaution, the Lions used their second No. 1 draft choice for Lawrence Gaines, a power fullback. They also have Bobby Thompson and Horace King and Jim Hooks, all vets.

The wide receivers were especially vulnerable, to injuries last year. The Lions lost Larry Walton in the preseason, then Dennis Franklin, then Jon Staggers. As a consequence, there is much depth. Walton, Franklin and Staggers return along with Ray Jarvis, Marlin Briscoe, George Farmer and Leonard Thompson. In addition, Forzano planned to try Dick Jauron, who has been brilliant at free safety, as a receiver. Detroit also signed Ed Marshall, who'd been in the WFL.

Charlie Sanders, perennially a Pro Bowl tight end, usually tops the Lions in receiving. He can be the best in the business. The Lions drafted David Hill on the second round to back up Sanders.

Breakdowns in the offensive line wrecked the Lions at times last year. But there is veteran expertise in the unit of Rockne Freitas, Jim Yarbrough, Bob Kowalkowski, Jon Morris and Lynn Boden. No starting change is anticipated. Backing them up are vet Craig Hertwig and second-round draftee Ken Long and third-round pick Russ Bolinger.

The Lions had the fourth best defense in the NFC last year. It was a greatly improved unit. The pass rush was considerably stronger.

The defensive line has no star names, but is a tight, aggressive unit. Herb Orvis is a volatile defender who often becomes overzealous. He plays with Larry Hand, now a tackle, and Ken Sanders and Billy Howard. Doug English, Jim Mitchell and Ernie Price are veterans and the Lions added rookie John Woodcock on the third round.

The linebacking is intact—Jim Laslavic in the middle, Paul

Naumoff and Charlie Weaver outside. Ed O'Neil could win a starting spot. The linebacking is not spectacular, but it is agile.

Lem Barney is back as an All-Pro cornerback after his best season in five years. He had a spectacular 1975 in a comeback. Levi Johnson and Charlie West are other returnees. It is probable Jauron will be returned to free safety, where he starred for the season, after the trial at receiver. In addition, the Lions used their top draft choice to pick a defensive back, James Hunter. He could become an immediate starter.

Errol Mann long has been outstanding as the placekicker. Playing indoors at covered Pontiac Stadium, Herman Weaver averaged 42.0 yards on his punts. The figure was best in the NFC, but was snubbed by the Pro Bowl selectors. Forzano also emphasized the anti-kicking game. The Lions blocked nine kicks last season. Five of those were punts, three in one game against Green Bay.

After seven years locked in the

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Mann, 67 points on 25 XP, 14 field goals	10th
RUSHING —Bussey, 157 carries for 696 yds., 4.4 Avg., 2 TDs	8th
PASSING —Reed, 86 of 191 attempts for 1181 yds., 9 TDs	10th
RECEIVING —Sanders, 37 receptions for 486 yds., 3 TDs	24th
INTERCEPTIONS —Barney, 5 for 23 yds., 4.6 Avg.	11th
PUNTING —Weaver, 80 punts, 42.0 Avg., longest 61 yds.	1st
PUNT RETURNS —West, 22 for 219 yds., 10.0 Avg.	8th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Thompson, 22 for 565 yds., 25.7 Avg.	3rd

Pre-Season Games

July	31	BUFFALO (N)
Aug.	8	MIAMI
	14	AT Cincinnati (N)
	21	
	28	AT Kansas City (N)
Sept.	2	BALTIMORE (N)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 AT Chicago	21-25
19 ATLANTA	17-14
26 MINNESOTA	17-10
Oct. 3 AT Green Bay	30-16
10 NEW ENGLAND	—
17 AT Washington	—
24 AT Seattle	—
31 GREEN BAY	13-10
Nov. 7 AT Minnesota	19-25
14 AT New Orleans	—
21 CHICAGO	27-7
25 BUFFALO	—
Dec. 5 AT N. Y. Giants	—
11 LOS ANGELES (N)	0-20

detestable second place, the Lions think they are ready to dethrone Minnesota. Forzano is risking his neck on it.

LIONS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
20	Barney, Lem	CB	6-0	190	31	10	Jackson
62	Boden, Lynn	G	6-5	270	23	2	S. Dak. St.
43	Briscoe, Marlin	WR	5-11	180	31	9	Omaha
24	Bussey, Dexter	RB	6-1	210	24	3	Arlington
10	Concannon, Jack	QB	6-3	200	33	11	Boston Col.
29	Davis, Ben	CB	5-11	180	31	9	Defiance
68	Dennis, Guy	G	6-2	250	29	8	Florida
32	Dunlap, Leonard	CB	6-2	200	27	6	No. Tex. St.
78	English, Doug	DT	6-5	245	23	2	Texas
44	Farmer, George	WR	6-4	215	28	7	UCLA
89	Franklin, D.	WR	6-1	185	23	2	Michigan
76	Freitas, Rockne	T	6-6	275	31	9	Oregon St.
74	Hand, Larry	DT	6-4	245	36	12	Appalachian
58	Hennigan, Mike	LB	6-2	225	25	4	Tenn. Tech
71	Hertwig, Craig	T	6-8	270	24	2	Georgia
60	Hicks, R.W.	C	6-4	250	25	2	Humboldt
30	Hooks, Jim	RB	5-11	225	25	4	Humboldt
70	Howard, Billy	DE	6-4	255	26	3	Alcorn A&M
45	Jarvis, Ray	WR	6-0	190	27	6	Norfolk St.
26	Jauron, Dick	S	6-0	190	26	4	Yale
23	Johnson, Levi	CB	6-3	200	26	4	Texas A&I
25	King, Horace	RB	5-10	210	23	2	Georgia
66	Kowalkowski, B.	G	6-3	245	33	11	Virginia
11	Landry, Greg	QB	6-4	205	30	9	Mass.
52	Laslavic, Jim	LB	6-2	240	25	4	Penn St.
12	Mann, Errol	K	6-0	205	35	9	No. Dakota
83	Mitchell, Jim	DE	6-3	250	28	7	Va. State
63	Morris, Jon	C	6-4	250	34	13	Holy Cross
19	Munson, Bill	QB	6-2	200	35	13	Utah St.
50	Naumoff, Paul	LB	6-1	215	31	10	Tennessee
55	O'Neil, Ed	LB	6-3	235	24	3	Penn St.
80	Orvis, Herb	DT	6-5	245	30	5	Colorado
36	Owens, Steve	RB	6-2	215	29	7	Oklahoma
72	Price, Ernie	DE	6-4	245	26	4	Texas A&I
14	Reed, Joe	QB	6-1	195	28	5	Miss. State
53	Roundtree, A.	LB	6-3	220	23	1	Iowa St.
88	Sanders, Charlie	TE	6-4	230	30	9	Minnesota
82	Sanders, Ken	DE	6-5	245	26	5	How. Payne
84	Small, John	LB	6-4	250	30	7	Citadel
86	Staggers, Jon	WR	5-10	185	28	7	Missouri
57	Strinko, Steve	LB	6-3	235	24	1	Michigan
42	Taylor, Altie	RB	5-10	200	29	8	Utah St.
33	Thompson, B.	RB	5-11	195	29	2	Oklahoma
39	Thompson, L.	RB	5-10	190	24	2	Okla. State
21	Thrower, Jim	DB	6-2	195	29	7	E. Tex. St.
49	Walton, Larry	WR	6-0	185	29	7	Arizona St.
59	Weaver, Charlie	LB	6-2	225	27	6	So. Calif.
18	Weaver, Herman	P	6-4	219	28	7	Tennessee
28	Weger, Mike	P	6-2	200	31	9	Bowl. Green
40	West, Charlie	S	6-1	190	30	9	El Paso
75	Yarbrough, Jim	T	6-5	265	30	8	Florida

ROOKIE CAMP ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
27	Bledsoe, John	RB	6-1	230	25	Ohio St.
62	Boden, Lynn	G	6-5	270	22	So. Dak. St.
73	Bolinger, Russ	T	6-5	255	21	Long Beach
10	Bowerman, Bill	QB	6-2	215	22	New Mex. St.
34	Braswell, C.	DB	5-11	190	24	West Va.
41	Chaves, Les	DB	6-0	195	23	Kansas St.
16	Danielson, Gary	QB	6-2	195	24	Purdue
32	Dunlap, Leonard	DB	6-2	200	26	No. Tex. St.
90	Elston, Leonard	WR	5-10	175	23	Ky. State
78	English, Doug	DT	6-5	245	22	Texas
89	Franklin, D.	WR	6-1	185	22	Michigan
38	Gaines, L.	RB	6-1	240	22	Wyoming
91	Gray, Archie	WR	6-1	180	23	Wyoming
71	Hertwig, Craig	T	6-8	270	24	Georgia
60	Hicks, R.W.	C	6-4	250	25	Humboldt
31	Hicks, Sonny	DB	6-1	200	25	N. C. A&T
93	Hill, David	TE	6-2	220	22	Texas A&I
44	Hunter, James	DB	6-3	195	22	Grambling
49	Jackson, Mike	WR	6-2	185	25	Central St.
47	Jacobs, Mel	WR	5-10	175	22	S. Diego St.
98	Jones, Leannell	TE	6-3	230	23	Long Beach
51	Kelly, Pat	LB	6-2	230	25	Richmond
25	King, Horace	RB	5-10	210	23	Georgia
65	Long, Ken	G	6-3	265	22	Purdue
46	Lott, Glenn	DB	6-2	200	22	Drake
42	Marshall, Ed	WR	6-5	200	28	Cameron
15	Masella, Brian	P-K	6-2	220	23	Penn St.
54	McCabe, Mike	C	6-5	245	22	So. Carolina
97	McCurdy, Craig	LB	6-2	210	21	Wm. & Mary
87	McMichael, Al	TE	6-4	230	26	So. Calif.
35	Meeks, Jim	DB	6-3	200	22	Boise St.
17	Pierantozzi, T.	QB	6-2	210	25	W. Chester
29	Pierson, Reggie	DB	5-11	185	23	Okla. St.
14	Ricardo, Benny	K	5-10	175	22	S. Diego St.
53	Roundtree, A.	LB	6-3	220	22	Iowa St.
64	Scavella, S.	LB	6-1	230	22	Miami (Fla.)
84	Shugrue, Gary	DE	6-5	240	22	Villanova
48	Smock, Trent	WR	6-4	210	21	Indiana
1	Sorenson, Rich	K	6-2	200	21	Chico St.
57	Strinko, Steve	LB	6-3	235	23	Michigan
99	Ten Napel, G.	LB	6-1	210	22	Texas A&M
33	Thompson, B.	RB	5-11	195	29	Oklahoma
39	Thompson, L.	RB	5-10	190	23	Okla. St.
61	Wilson, James	G	6-3	265	24	Clark
77	Woodcock, John	DT	6-3	240	22	Hawaii

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SS-P

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

PREDICTION 2nd

Can it be that the most productive quarterback in pro football history will never win the ultimate championship?

All the performance records that are worthwhile are Francis Tarkenton's property now. Everything. Most passes thrown. Most passes caught. Most passes caught for touchdowns.

John Unitas won ultimate championships at Baltimore. Bart Starr won them at Green Bay. Joe Namath won one with the Jets. Sam Baugh won in Washington, Bobby Layne in Detroit, Otto Graham in Cleveland. Francis Tarkenton has had everything—everything but the final, sweetest, most gratifying, most elusive of championships. He has played in two Super Bowls. His team lost both.

Now this paradoxical, run-about charismatic performer could be in a depressing dilemma. His skills remain sharp and dominant. But the Vikings, becoming ragged with age, are a team aimed downward.

Perhaps the decline will be gradual. Maybe it will be imperceptible. Maybe the Vikings will win the Central title again this year, for the eighth time in nine years. But more likely they won't. It is certain they will be in contention till the end. But they are challenged now and may not be the best in the division any more. Even if they do win, they are not so formidable any more that they can pass through the playoffs. Not unscathed.

Their 12-2 regular season record of a year ago was misleading. Their schedule consisted of meringue.

Tarkenton can still frolic willy-nilly, helter-skelter at the advanced age of 36. He is truly amazing.

But this is a club with nine of 22 starters above age 30. Seven of these old coots play defense, so long the Vikings' vital strength. There have been re-

placements filtering in annually, but mostly to play on offense. And this age on defense—older players are more prone to injury—which could ultimately destroy the Vikings.

"A lot has been said about the age of this team," rebutted Bud Grant, the frosty-visaged coach whose brilliance contributed to the Vikings' dominance. "Well, a lot was said about the age of this team seven-eight-nine years ago, too. From when we started, Mick Tingelhoff is the only offensive starter remaining. On defense, Jim Marshall, Carl Eller, Paul Krause and Roy Winston are the only ones.

"We've had a lot of changes over the years, maybe more than people realize. Just about every year some of the old guard move on. Hopefully, we've done it with dignity."

Minnesota has won through the years with dignity.

There have been changes, true. But so many of the additions through the years now have turned 30, too.

Tarkenton spent his middle years with the Giants between tricks with the Vikings. He grew old with grace and the records eventually piled up. Early in his career his dodging, adlib machinations were the bane of Norm Van Brocklin, his first coach. Van Brocklin, too, was a quarterback who won ultimate championships.

He characterized Tarkenton as a 7-7 quarterback. "He'll win games he should lose; lose games he should win."

Tarkenton has won 38 games in the last three seasons, including those necessary to win two NFC titles. But never has there been the final ultimate victory. Getting to the Super Bowl, though, Tarkenton achieved and he could mock Van Brocklin's early analysis.

"Tarkenton most likely will go down as the greatest quarterback ever to play pro football," Grant said. "That is the type of honor

H. P. "BUD" GRANT, Coach.
Assistants: Bus Mertes, John Michels, Jerry Burns, Buddy Ryan, Neill Armstrong, Jocko Nelson.



FRAN TARKENTON and coach BUD GRANT have been a winning combo.

usually arrived at after a player is through. Well, Francis is not accomplishing it on the way down or the way out. He's doing it now, not as a spot player but as a regular."

The same Bud Grant once philosophized: "Quarterbacks can't be God Almighty."

For the Lions to overhaul the Vikings, they would have to eliminate a five-game deficit of last year. The Vikings have not merely won their division year in and year out. They domineered it, suppressing the other clubs, dashing off huge winning streaks. Most years they clinched their title and playoff assignment by Thanksgiving. They could coast.

"There were a lot of good things that happened," Grant said of last season. "A 12-2 record, for one thing. Maybe that's taken a little for granted around here, since we've had such good records in the past. But 12-2 is a major accomplishment.

"It's also been said many times that we had a weak schedule . . . that the weak schedule didn't prepare us for the game against Dallas. Well, we had Dallas

beaten right down to the final seconds and we lost to what has been called a freak play by some people and a miracle by others.

"Generally, speaking of 1976, we'll strive to be as good as we were last year. We'll strive to be 12-2 again. Certainly, we'll try to improve in some areas, but basically we're aiming to equal our performance in the regular season last year."

It is true that the Vikings have been rebuilt, strengthened, offensively in the years since Joe Kapp defected early in Grant's regime.

Tarkenton's offense purrs. The Vikings, though always low in the rotation, have drafted with brilliance.

Chuck Foreman is an example. He is a versatile performer who blends so fully with Tarkenton.

"Foreman had a super year, both running and catching," Grant said and this was understatement. "And one of the primary reasons he was so successful was that he had the durability to play consistently."

STU VOIGT, capable tight end, makes key grab for Vikings in '75.



CHUCK FOREMAN scored 22 TDs and led NFL receivers during 1975.

So it was that Foreman became a Thousand-Yard runner, second in the NFC with 1070. He led, from running back, the entire pro football domain in pass receiving with 73 catches. He led the NFC in scoring with 132 points. He had 22 touchdowns, one less than O.J. Simpson. It was a superlative season from an athlete with superb abilities.

Foreman's running mate is to be the improving Brent McClanahan. McClanahan ran with verve and dash last year in a secondary role behind Ed Marinaro. Marinaro finally became an effective runner last year while playing out his option. He defected to the

Jets. His loss deprived Tarkenton of a strong receiver coming out of the backfield as well as one running aide.

Also running for the Vikings are the aged Dave Osborn and Bob Miller. The Vikings signed Willie Spencer, who was a premier WFL runner. But he suffered a damaging injury in a pre-season highway accident.

The receiving is short, made shorter by John Gilliam's jump to Atlanta. Gilliam had functioned so well with Tarkenton. Now the Vikings are trying to replace him with Tom Geredine or Clint Haselrig. They drafted two receivers high, Sammie White on the

second round and Leonard Willis on the fourth. Jim Lash, who has the ability to catch deep, is an incumbent starter.

Stu Voigt has been a capable tight end.

Tingelhoff, at 36, anchors the offensive line which always has been a Vikings' strength. It includes Ron Yary, Ed White, Andy Maurer and Steve Riley with Charles Goodrum in reserve.

It is the defense which is vulnerable because of its age. There were all sorts of purplish nicknames to eulogize this defense at one time. Now seven of the starters are in their 30s.

Three play on the defensive line, which had become part of the folklore. Outside Jim Marshall is 38, in his 17th season, and Carl Eller is 34. Alan Page has turned 30 and is in need of a vintage type year. Doug Sutherland, now 28, is the youngest of the defensive line veterans. Thus, the Vikings used their first-draft choice on a defensive lineman, James White. In five-linemen situations, the Vikings can use Bob Lurtsema, 34. But there also is Mark Mullaney, one of those who symbolize the Vikings' smart drafting over the years. He could be ready to play regularly.

Like on the line, the linebacking has become aged, except for Jeff Siemon in the middle. Sie-

mon is a longtime regular at 25. But outside Wally Hilgenberg is 33 and Roy Winston is 35. Again there are youngsters who might be ready, Fred McNeill and Matt Blair.

The secondary has become a problem spot. Paul Krause is 34 back there and Bobby Bryant is 32. Nate Wright and Jeff Wright are the other incumbents. There could be some changes with Terry Brown and Autry Beamon winning starting positions. The Cowboys' 50-yard pass in desperation and controversy about interference suspicions is a haunting memory. It knocked the Vikings out of the playoffs. The secondary showed some threadbare spots.

Grant was a pioneer in the contemporary fetish emphasis on the kicking game. He stressed it and with the smothering defenses his maneuvers provided favorable field positions. Kicking was a key to victory. Fred Cox, 37, returns as the place kicker. Cox, after some insufferable seasons, regained much of his accuracy last year. Grant, it seemed,

tinkered with new punters every year. Neil Clabo won the job last year as a rookie and was quite satisfactory.

The talent on the Vikings is fabled and belongs in the history books of the NFL. So many of these athletes have been superstars and some still are. But history is not current events. Fran Tarkenton will set lots more records. But it can be that the most productive quarterback in NFL history, the very best, will never win the ultimate championship. It is sad.

VIKINGS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
56	Anderson, Scott	C	6-4	234	25	2	Missouri
45	Athas, Pete	CB	5-11	187	29	6	Tennessee
27	Beamon, Autry	S	6-0½	190	23	2	E. Tex. St.
17	Berry, Bob	QB	5-11	185	34	12	Oregon
21	Blahak, Joe	DB	5-10	188	26	4	Nebraska
59	Blair, Matt	LB	6-5	229	25	3	Iowa St.
24	Brown, Terry	S	6-2	205	29	7	Okla. St.
20	Bryant, Bobby	CB	6-1	170	32	8	So. Carolina
12	Clabo, Neil	P	6-2	200	24	2	Tennessee
14	Cox, Fred	K	5-10	200	38	14	Pittsburgh
84	Craig, Steve	TE	6-3	231	25	3	No'western
	Dumler, Doug	C	6-3	245	24	2	Nebraska
81	Eller, Carl	DE	6-6	247	34	13	Minnesota
44	Foreman, Chuck	RB	6-2	207	26	4	Miami
	Geredine, Tom	WR	6-2	189	26	3	N.E. Mo. St.
42	Gilliam, John	WR	6-1	190	31	10	S. C. State
68	Goodrum, Charles T.	T	6-3	256	26	4	Fla. A&M
87	Haslerig, Clint	WR	6-0	189	24	3	Michigan
58	Hilgenberg, W.	LB	6-3	229	34	13	Iowa
89	Kingsriter, D.	TE	6-2	222	26	3	Minnesota
22	Krause, Paul	S	6-3	200	34	13	Iowa
82	Lash, Jim	WR	6-2	199	25	4	No'western
65	Lawson, Steve	G	6-3	265	27	6	Kansas
19	Lee, Bob	QB	6-2	195	31	7	Pacific
75	Lurtsema, B. DE/DT	6-6	250	34	10	West. Mich.	
70	Marshall, Jim	DE	6-4	240	39	17	Ohio St.
55	Martin, Amos	LB	6-3	228	27	5	Louisville
66	Maurer, Andy	G	6-3	275	28	7	Oregon
33	McClanahan, B.	RB	5-10	202	26	4	Arizona St.
80	McCullum, Sam	WR	6-1½	203	24	3	Montana St.
54	McNeill, Fred	LB	6-2	229	24	3	UCLA
35	Miller, Robert	RB	5-11	204	23	2	Kansas
77	Mullaney, Mark	DE	6-6	242	23	2	Colorado St.
41	Osborn, Dave	RB	6-0	208	33	12	No. Dakota
88	Page, Alan	DT	6-4	245	31	10	Notre Dame
78	Riley, Steve	T	6-5½	258	24	3	So. Calif.
50	Siemon, Jeff	LB	6-2½	237	26	5	Stanford
56	Stein, Bob	LB	6-3	235	28	8	Minnesota
69	Sutherland, D.	DT	6-3	250	28	7	Superior
10	Tarkenton, Fran	QB	6-0	190	36	16	Georgia
53	Tingelhoff, Mick	C	6-2	240	36	15	Nebraska
83	Voigt, Stu	TE	6-1	225	28	7	Wisconsin
72	Ward, John	C/G	6-4	250	28	5	Okla. St.
62	White, Ed	G	6-2½	270	29	8	California
60	Winston, Roy	LB	5-11	222	36	15	La. State
23	Wright, Jeff	S	5-11	190	27	6	Minnesota
43	Wright, Nate	CB	5-11	180	29	8	S. Diego St.
73	Yary, Ron	T	6-5½	255	30	9	So. Calif.

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Foreman, 132 points on 22 TDs (13 run, 9 pass)	1st
RUSHING —Foreman, 280 carries for 1070 yds., 3.8 Avg., 13 TDs	2nd
PASSING —Tarkenton, 273 of 425 attempts for 2994 yds., 25 TDs	1st
RECEIVING —Foreman, 73 receptions for 691 yds., 9 TDs	1st
INTERCEPTIONS —Krause, 10 for 201 yds., 20.1 Avg.	1st
PUNTING —Clabo, 73 punts, 41.1 Avg., longest 62 yds.	4th
PUNT RETURNS —Bryant, 19 for 125 yds., 6.6 Avg.	15th
KICKOFF RETURNS —McClanahan, 17 for 360 yds., 21.2 Avg.	15th

Pre-Season Games

Aug.	1 AT Miami (TV)
	7 AT Kansas City (N)
	16 AT Cleveland (N)
	21 CINCINNATI (N)
	28 PHILADELPHIA (N)
Sept.	5 AT Denver (TV)

1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept. 12 AT New Orleans	20-7
19 LOS ANGELES	—
26 AT Detroit	10-17
Oct. 4 PITTSBURGH (N)	—
10 CHICAGO	28-3
17 N.Y. GIANTS	—
24 AT Philadelphia	—
31 AT Chicago	13-9
Nov. 7 DETROIT	25-19
14 SEATTLE	—
21 AT Green Bay	28-17
29 AT San Francisco (N)	27-17
Dec. 5 GREEN BAY	24-3
11 AT Miami	—

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Barnette, Keith	HB	6-2	205	22	Boston Col.
Brune, Larry	DS	6-1½	197	22	Rice
Egerdahl, Terry	DS	6-1½	196	23	Duluth
Groce, Ron	HB	6-2	211	23	Macalester
Hagins, I.	WR-RS	5-9	179	22	Southern
Hamilton, Wes	OG	6-3	255	22	Tulsa
Hickel, Randy	DS	6-0	185	22	Montana St.
Kracher, S.	HB-WR	6-1	191	22	Montana St.
Lukowski, R.	DT	6-3	235	23	West Va.
Paulson, Gary	DE	6-4½	242	22	Colo. St.
Salmon, Bill	QB	6-1	200	22	North. Iowa
Sparks, Robert	DW	5-9	175	22	San Fran. St.
Stapleton, Jeff	OT-OG	6-4½	200	22	Purdue
Wagner, Steve	DS	6-2	198	22	Wisconsin
White, James	DT	6-3¼	263	22	Okla. St.
White, Sammy	WR	5-11	189	23	Grambling
Willis, Leonard	WR	5-10	180	22	Ohio St.

FREE AGENTS

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Cochrane, Kelly	QB	6-2½	212	24	Miami
Kellar, Nark	FB	6-0	230	22	Nrth. Ill.
Spencer, Willie	RB	6-4	235	22	None
Herkenroff, John	OG	6-3	246	22	St. John's
Watson, Todd	WR	5-11	170	23	St. John's



RON YARY, 255-pound Viking tackle, is top blocker in ninth pro season.

GREEN BAY PACKERS

BART STARR, Coach.

Assistants: Dave Hanner, Paul Roach, Zeke Bratkowski, Leon McLaughlin, Lew Carpenter, Dick LeBeau, John Meyer, Bob Lord.

PREDICTION 3rd

Once Bart Starr stood at an airline checkin counter while enroute to a television assignment. It was in the years after his retirement from playing quarterback with consummate skills in Green Bay. A stranger approached. The man was curious. He had a flicker of recognition. Then the stranger realized and spoke to the immortal:

"Didn't you used to be Bart Starr?" asked the man.

Bart Starr smiled.

Last year he became a head coach and he frowned and despaired. Bart Starr was a perfectionist. He was coach of an imperfect team. Last year he was supposed to be Vince Lombardi incarnate. By some mystic method Bart would resurrect the Packers. It was a ghostly legend

they built up in Green Bay, the cheese and toilet tissue capital of the NFL.

John Hadl was supposed to be Bart Starr incarnate. Starr was not Lombardi. Indeed, it was an unfair millstone that hung from his precious neck. And Hadl was not Starr.

Lombardi had a luxury in his years as coach that Bart Starr did not have in his first year. He had Starr playing quarterback.

The fresh start with Bart turned into a dismally disappointing continuance of the recent past. The Packers went 4-10. It was terrifying. They did not wake up the echoes in Green Bay.

But now John Hadl is gone. He had been so costly to the Packers. But the club did not progress with Hadl, paid for with five squandered high draft choices.

Now it is Lynn Dickey's time to become Bart Starr, the quarterback incarnate.

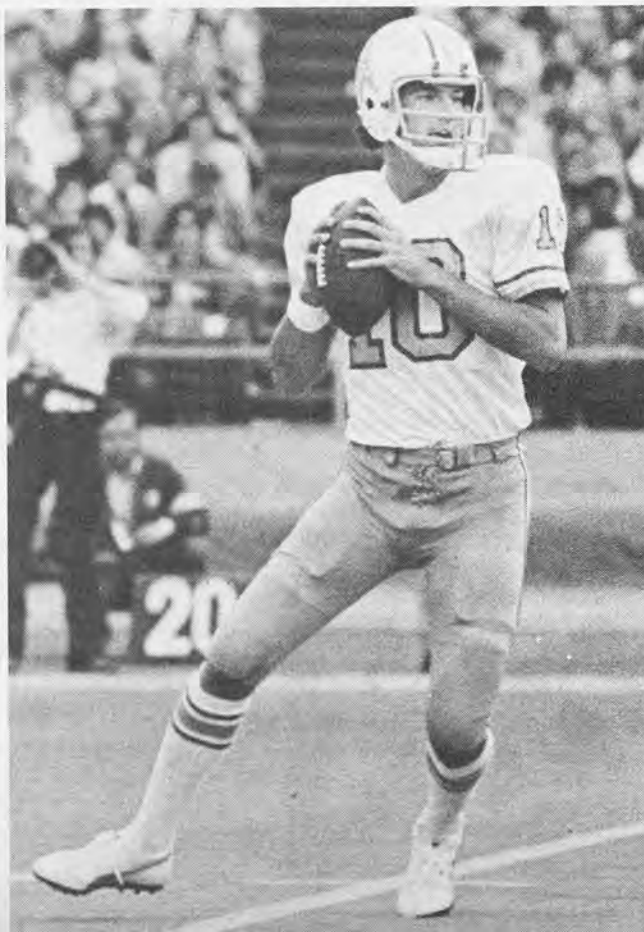
Dickey was acquired in trade from Houston. He had injuries there and seldom was used.

"He has the characteristics we seek for someone playing that position," said second-year coach Starr of his new QB. "He has strong mannerisms. He handles the position well."

Starr is the most astute coach in pro football about pure quarterbacking. Nobody can teach the style better. Nobody can evoke more from a quarterback's skills. Hadl was old and his habits were formed. Dickey is young, 26, and can be nurtured and trained by the master.

"It was a good compliment that he would go out and trade for me," quarterback Dickey said of his new coach. "He's a know-

LYNN DICKEY, young QB, has fine potential says coach.



BART STARR, in happy mood, enters 2nd year as coach.



ledgeable man on football."

The young man has a strong arm and potential—and Bart's guidance.

The Packers' offense was dismal last year. In the old days, there was the brute power of the running game—Jimmy Taylor and Paul Hornung and Elijah Pitts. Even in the recent years of decadence, there was awesome running with John Brockington and MacArthur Lane. Last year Lane was traded. And Brock, for the second time as a pro, failed to be a thousand-Yard runner. He missed by a lot this time. He ran for a meager 434 yards, half his previous worst.

As a consequence, the Packers had the poorest rushing offense in the entire pro football conglomerate. It meant more passing and Hadl did okay some times, not so well others.

"No matter how you look at it 4-10 is a lousy record," said Starr, who has more patience in a situation which would have enraged Lombardi. "We're ashamed of it and embarrassed by it.

"We've made mistakes and will make others because we're human. But I can promise you, we will not make the same mistake twice.

"In the NFC we ranked 11th offensively over all and we were 13th—dead last in rushing. Unless we have a catastrophe, we're going to improve on that. To win, we're going to have to run the football."

It is up to Brockington to regain some of the yardage he lost. He runs now with young Willard Harrell now that Lane has been dealt away. Harrell was a fair rookie. There is little depth. Barty Smith has promise. The Packers have picked up Ken Grandberry and drafted Aundra Thompson on the fifth round. It is a needy running corps.

The receiving was rebuilt with some success last year. Kenny Payne proved to be an excellent NFL receiver with 58 catches. That was more than Don Hutson ever caught in one year at Green Bay. But Hutson played for winners.

Payne's running mate is Gerald Tinker, who came from Atlanta during the year. Atlanta



MIKE McCOY (76), Green Bay DT, is about to slam FRAN TARKENTON.

was hard pressed for receivers and let Tinker go, which indicates a message. Steve Odom, the speedy returns runner, is also a receiver candidate. There is a shortage also at wide receiver.

Rich McGeorge remains an outstanding tight end.

Starr has good news for the offensive line. Gail Gillingham has ended his retirement after one season and returns to play guard. He was All-Pro, a bridge back to the Lombardi epoch. Starr is in the process of refurbishing the line elsewhere. Ernie McMillan, the old campaigner of 16 seasons, Bill Bain, Dick Himes and Larry McCarren are returning starters. Bruce Van Dyke is an excellent backup. And the Packers' first draft choice was Mark Koncar, an offensive tackle.

The Packers had traded away a couple of years of No. 1 draft choices. But got this one back when Ted Hendricks went to Oakland as a free agent. It was one of the last bits of redemption under the suspended Rozelle Rule.

"Defensively, we slipped a couple of notches last year," said Starr. "We were 12th out of 13 teams in our conference against

the rush. We couldn't rush the football and we couldn't stop the rush. And we had only 14 interceptions. And the interception is the most important single play in football insofar as turning a game around is concerned. I also should point out that any time we've had a championship year here the pass interception total was up."

With a lesser rush, there will be additional strain on the secondary this year. Kenny Ellis, a longtime griper but an outstanding pass defender, was traded. He went to the Oilers with Hadl for Dickey.

Starr's complaint is that the Packers yield too much yardage on first down. This is a crippling breakdown of a defense.

The rush line does return intact. Alden Roche and Clarence Williams play outside. Mike McCoy and Dave Purefory are the tackles. Challenging are Dave Roller and Bill Cooke.

Starr plainly was displeased with the giant McCoy's work last year. McCoy has had years when he was a superior defensive lineman.

"I think Mike McCoy is discovering what becoming an All-



JOHN BROCKINGTON slumped to only 434 yards rushing last season.

Pro defensive tackle is all about," Starr said critically. "He has to realize that he must be at the top of his game every Sunday to achieve that distinction. He must rush the passer better."

Starr's rebuke, of course, is designed to light McCoy's burners. Lombardi would have been more blistering.

Starr complained that the linebacking was inconsistent last year. Linebacking was a former strength. The Packers were weakened with the departure of Hendricks. But they still had Jim Carter in the middle and Fred Carr outside, two strong men. They remain now, publicly chastened by the coach. Carter, in particular, was criticized. Gary Weaver returns as the incumbent at one outside spot. But Tom Toner, a former starter, challenges. Larry Hefner and Ron Acks are other veteran returnees with aspirations.

To improve the pass defense, Starr has brought in one of the NFL's alltime best defenders as an assistant coach. Dick LeBeau will be the teacher for a reconstructed defensive backfield. Ellis is gone to Houston and Al Matthews to Seattle in expansion.

Willie Buchanon, oft-injured, is what LeBeau calls an experienced quality player. Johnnie Gray was a starter last year and proved an efficient tackler. There are other veterans trying to work in—Charlie Hall, who has started, and Perry Smith. Rookie Mike Charles McCoy—a second Mike McCoy on the Packers—was a

prime draft choice, in the third round. He could be a starter.

Kicking was a harrowing problem for Starr in his first coaching season. In his coaching debut, the Lions blocked three punts by Steve Broussard. Starr cashiered Broussard and signed Dave Beverly. He returns. So does Chet Marcol, who had been the best NFC kicker for several years. Marcol was injured and lost for the year in the opener of 1975.

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Danelo, 53 points on 20 XP, 11 field goals	14th
RUSHING —Brockington, 144 carries for 434 yds., 3.0 Avg., 7 TDs	20th
PASSING —Hadl, 191 of 353 attempts for 2095 yds., 6 TDs	13th
RECEIVING —Payne, 58 receptions for 766 yds.	2nd
INTERCEPTIONS —Smith, 6 for 97 yds., 16.2 Avg.	5th
PUNTING —Beverly, 66 punts, 37.6 Avg., longest 55 yds.	12th
PUNT RETURNS —Harrell, 21 for 136 yds., 6.5 Avg.	16th
KICKOFF RETURNS —Odom, 42 for 1034 yds., 24.6 Avg., 1 TD	6th

Pre-Season Games

July	31 CINCINNATI (N)
Aug.	7 TAMPA (N)
	15 AT New England (N)
	20 AT Buffalo (N)
	28 N.Y. GIANTS (N)
Sept.	3 ATLANTA (N)

	1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept.	12 SAN FRANCISCO	—
	19 AT St. Louis	—
	26 AT Cincinnati	—
Oct.	3 DETROIT	16-30
	10 SEATTLE	—
	17 PHILADELPHIA	—
	24 AT Oakland	—
	31 AT Detroit	10-13
Nov.	7 NEW ORLEANS	—
	14 AT Chicago	14-27
	21 MINNESOTA	17-28
	28 CHICAGO	28-7
Dec.	5 AT Minnesota	3-24
	12 AT Atlanta	22-13

He was replaced by Bill Danelo, who goes to camp with the expectation of early unemployment. Marcol with his great range is a guarantee of 100 points a year.

Didn't these use to be the Green Bay Packers? There sure were, once upon a time when Vince Lombardi was coach and Bart Starr was quarterback. It was a storybook legend. Now they still chase that ghostly legend, flitting off in the distance of the memory somewhere.

PACKERS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
57	Acks, Ron	LB	6-2	225	31	9	Illinois
88	Askson, Bert	TE	6-2	225	30	4	Tex. So'ern
69	Bain, Bill	G	6-3 3/4	269	24	2	USC
11	Beverly, David	P	6-2	180	26	3	Auburn
42	Brockington, J.	RB	6-1	225	27	6	Ohio St.
19	Brown, Carlos	QB	6-3	210	25	2	U. Pacific
28	Buchanon, W.	CB	6-0	190	25	5	S. Diego St.
53	Carr, Fred	LB	6-5	240	30	9	El Paso
50	Carter, Jim	LB	6-3	245	27	7	Minnesota
78	Cooke, Bill	T	6-5	251	25	2	Mass.
18	Danelo, Joe	K	5-9	166	22	2	Wash. St.
10	Dickey, Lynn	QB	6-4	220	26	5	Kansas St.
86	Gaydos, Kent	WR	6-6	228	26	3	Florida St.
68	Gillingham, Gale	G	6-3	265	32	11	Minnesota
47	Grandberry, Ken	RB	5-11	195	24	2	Wash. St.
24	Gray, Johnnie	DB	5-11	185	22	2	Fullerton
46	Haggerty, Steve	WR	5-10 1/2	170	23	2	Las Vegas
44	Hall, Charley	CB	6-1	190	28	6	Pittsburgh
40	Harrell, W.	RB-KR	5-8 1/2	182	23	2	U. Pacific
51	Hefner, Larry	LB	6-2	230	27	5	Clemson
72	Hines, Dick	T	6-4	260	30	9	Ohio St.
55	Hull, Tom	LB	6-3	230	24	3	Penn St.
30	Hodgins, Norm	S	6-1	191	24	3	La. State
60	Knutson, Steve	G	6-3	254	24	2	USC
46	Luke, Steve	DB	6-2	205	22	2	Ohio St.
62	Matson, Pat	G	6-1	245	32	11	Oregon
58	McCaffrey, Bob	C	6-2 1/2	245	24	2	USC
54	McCarren, Larry	C	6-3	248	24	4	Illinois
76	McCoy, Mike	DT	6-5	275	27	7	Notre Dame
81	McGeorge, Rich	TE	6-4	230	27	7	Elon
70	McMillan, Ernie	T	6-5	265	38	16	Illinois
13	Marcol, Chester	K	6-0	190	26	5	Hillside
12	Milan, Don	QB	6-3	196	27	3	C. P. Obispo
63	Miller, Jim	G	6-3	245	27	6	Langston
84	Odom, S.	WR-KR	5-8	174	23	3	Utah
73	Okoniewski, S.	DT	6-4	272	27	5	Montana
85	Payne, Ken	WR	6-1	185	25	3	Langston
75	Purelford, Dave	DE	6-1	255	27	5	East Mich.
64	Purvis, Bart	G	6-4	240	24	3	Maryland
87	Roche, Alden	DE	6-4	255	31	7	Southern
74	Roller, Dave	DT	6-1 1/2	270	26	3	Kentucky
38	Scales, Hurlie	DT	6-1	200	25	3	No. Tex. St.
33	Smith, Bart	RB	6-3 1/2	240	24	3	Richmond
45	Smith, Perry	CB	6-1	195	25	4	Colo. St.
27	Taylor, Clifton	WR	6-0	195	24	3	Memphis St.
	Thomas, Earl	RB	6-2	215	27	6	Houston
82	Tinker, Gerald	WR	5-9	170	25	3	Kent St.
26	Torkelson, Eric	RB	6-2	194	24	3	Connecticut
59	Tonner, Tom	LB	6-3	235	26	4	Idaho St.
61	Van Dyke, Bruce	G	6-2	255	32	11	Missouri
52	Weaver, Gary	LB	6-1	225	28	4	Fresno St.
37	Wells, Terry	RB	5-11	195	25	3	So. Miss.
83	Williams, C.	DE	6-5	255	29	7	Pr. View
65	Wortman, Keith	G	6-2	250	26	5	Nebraska

ROOKIES

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
34	Arnold, Chris	CB	6-2	198	24	Virginia St.
31	Bowman, B.	DB	5-11	195	23	So. Miss.
71	Brazeau, Phil	T	6-4 1/2	260	26	Wash. St.
41	Burrow, Jim	S	5-11	181	22	Montana
67	Butler, Larry	G	6-3	250	24	Appalachian
93	Dandridge, Jerry	LB	6-1	222	22	Memphis St.
20	Green, Jessie	WR	6-2	185	22	Tulsa
91	Gueno, Jim	LB	6-2	220	22	C. P. Obispo
83	Hall, Ray	TE	6-6	231	24	TCU
56	Hanna, Mike	LB	6-2	220	24	C. P. Obispo
36	Henson, John	RB	6-1	226	23	USC
97	Jackson, Melvin	G	6-1	267	22	Colorado
79	Koncar, Mark	T	6-4 1/2	271	23	Vanderbilt
11	Lainhart, Steve	QB	6-4	208	24	J.C. Smith
22	Leak, Curtis	WR	5-11	180	22	Colorado
29	McCoy, M. C.	DB	5-11	183	23	Pittsburgh
62	Perko, Tom	LB	6-3	233	22	Fayetteville
64	Ritter, Sylvester	G	6-3	252	23	Wisconsin
91	Seifert, Mike	DE	6-3	255	23	Cal Berkeley
25	Strickland, H.	RB	5-11	190	23	Memphis St.
27	Taylor, Clifton	RB	6-0	195	24	San Jose
90	Taylor, Drew	DE	6-5	250	25	East Tex. St.
43	Thompson, A.	RB	6-0	186	23	No. Iowa
99	Timmermans, M.	G	6-1	240	22	Riverside
39	Williams, D.	DB	5-10	180	24	

CHICAGO BEARS

PREDICTION 4th

Chicago used to be the butcher shop of America. It was a slaughterhouse of a city. It was a blood and guts town. It was the home arena for the mob. It became news celebrated in song when a man danced with his wife in Chicago. Chicago was a tough town of sinew and violence.

It still is tough and violent. But the sports teams of Chicago have provided a horrible culture shock for the citizens. The teams are pushovers, softies who scatter in fright.

And the most disappointing, frustrating of the Chicago teams has been the Bears, who try to play football.

This is a football franchise with glorious tradition. The players reflected the philosophy and environment of the city. They gashed and elbowed and jabbed their enemies, sliced them and massacred them. They froze the blood in the veins of their rivals. This was the team of Bronco Nagunski and Dick Butkus and a gang of awful villains. Around the NFL, they used to tack the portraits of the Bears on the walls of the post office.

So what have the Bears become? They are a collection of kids with peach fuzz on their chins and charity in their hands. They are tender, callow and they say Sir. Excuse me, do you wish, Sir, to run for a touchdown?

This is a team whose output last year consisted of 22 touchdowns! Why, Gale Sayers in his first season, scored that many touchdowns all by himself.

The Bears are beginning their third year of a new regime. There has been change under Jimmy Finks, the general manager brought in by crusty George Halas. But there has not been progress. Not so it can be detected by the inhabitants of Soldier Field.

A quicker advance had been anticipated. Finks was the mas-

ter who built the Vikings to what they were. He was slick and shrewd. Sometimes he was an audacious trader. But his trades turned out to be intelligent. At Minnesota.

Certainly, Finks' efforts will provide positive results in Chicago. But they have not so far. At Minnesota, he traded a half dozen times for quarterbacks. And the club won. In Chicago, there was a desperate need for a veteran quar-

JACK PARDEE, Coach.

Assistants: Ray Callahan, Brad Ecklund, John Hilton, Clyde Emrich, Ross Fichtner, Fred O'Connor, Jerry Stoltz, Bob Bowser.

terback when he arrived in 1974. Some bold move to obtain the quarterback was expected in Chicago. But Finks dallied here where he was expected to dazzle. It probably, was because of a simple economic theorem—the old chestnut about supply and demand. Finks had commodities to trade for his quarterbacks in Minnesota. He has had little to deal with in Chicago.

Last year the Bears went

WALTER PAYTON rushed for 679 yards, 7 touchdowns last season.



through three quarterbacks toward their 4-10 record. They began with Bobby Douglass, the old run-no pass lefthander. They dumped him off to San Diego early in the year. They continued with Gary Huff, a youngster with a trigger arm that sometime misfired. At the end, they were pressing onward with Bob Avellini, a rugged rookie whose toughness seemed alive in the oldstyle Chicago image.

There were changes everywhere. Finks brought in a new coach, Jack Pardee, who had been educated by George Allen. Pardee is emotional, in the manner of Allen. But the philosophies are starkly different. Allen builds with fossils unearthed from other clubs. He is an archeologist among coaches. Pardee and Finks attempt to build with tender, green, immature youth. They are schoolmasters, cajoling, urging, pleading, praising.

Of the 52 players inherited by Pardee on his original roster before last year, a mere 16 remained at the end of the 4-10 campaign. Seventy-four players were examined and told to leave. On the 43-player roster of 1975, there

were 17 rookies. Eleven rookies started during the season. By the end of the year, the Bears were competing in the NFL with a total-rookie backfield.

"If we were headed in the right direction we would be a better football team at the end of the season than we were at the start," Finks said. "We were better."

The Bears finished the year by winning two of the last three games. With this, there is fool's gold—hope—for '76.

Young Avellini displayed much courage and fortitude at the end of the schedule. He held up under combat. He showed poise. He stood up like a Billy Kilmer, not artistic, but gutty and strong.

"He has a professional arm," Pardee said of the young quarterback. "But his inexperience shows at times. He hasn't mastered his profession yet by a longshot, but he's improving. That's the important thing—the improvement."

Avellini did the things young quarterbacks do. He threw too often into concentrated coverage. He was intercepted too much. But Huff, with three times the experience, threw more frequent interceptions.

So Avellini looms as this year's starter while Finks shops for the capable veteran the Bears long have needed.

They do have one veteran—Virgil Carter, who had once been kicked off the club in an earlier regime because of deficiencies.

The rookie runners last year are the veterans of this year. Walter Payton was a No. 1 draft choice. Roland Harper was a last-round draftee, No. 17, picked in the blind game of trying to pin the tail on the donkey.

The Bears hit target with both.

Payton, despite injuries, ran for 679 yards. He is cocky and proud and regarded by some as the best runner already in the NFC. He, for sure, is the Bear's best runner since Sayers. Harper was the No. 2 runner with 453 yards. Behind their top runners, the Bears have Mike Adamle, Johnny Musso and Tom Donchez. They have a shortage of backs and must pick up more.

Their receiving shows promise. Bo Rather has developed into a top receiver, another of the Bears' pick ups. Bob Grim is a veteran with moves. But it is Ron Shanklin the Bears' drool about.

BOB AVELLINI impressed as a rookie QB in 1975. BRIAN BASCHNAGEL was Bears' No. 3 pick from Ohio State.



He was picked up from the Steelers, then missed the entire year with injuries. The Bears expect him to be ready this year.

There is one more athlete who could end up as a receiver—if he isn't a runner or a safety man. Brian Baschnagel was the No. 3 draft choice. He will be an astonishing pro. He played for Woody Hayes at Ohio State and was an unsung athlete. Baschnagel could be a more productive pro than Archie Griffin. Receiver should be his position.

Bob Parsons and Greg Latta are veteran tight ends, both capable.

Pardee did over the offensive line last year and likely will do some more culling and fixing this year. There are three second-year blockers returning as sometimes starters. They are Noah Jackson, Dan Peiffer and Jeff Sevy. Others who have started in this makeshift group are Lionel Antoine, Dan Neal, Mark Nordquist and Bob Asher. The Bears used their No. 1 draft choice for a blocking tackle. Dennis Lick. Rookie Dan Jiggett, from Harvard, also has an opportunity.

There were many changes in last year's defense. The best area is a strong rush line headed by Wally Chambers. The others are Mike Hartenstine, Jim Osborne and Richard Harris. Chambers, at 6-6 and 260, ranks in the category with Alan Page, Merlin Olsen and Joe Greene. He is so menacing nobody says much to him about the earring dangling from his lobe.

"I think, myself, I'm as good or better than any other defensive tackle in the league," says

Chambers. "That's my confidence in myself."

He is excellent.

Pardee, an old linebacker, continues to juggle his unit. He has decided that Waymond Bryant, once Dick Butkus heir, is unsuited to play middle linebacker. Bryant has the mobility to play outside and should eventually become a star. Doug Buffone, the Bears' team elder with 11 years, is a fixture at the other outside position. Carl Gersbach, an ex-Viking, is the expected starter in the middle, replacing the departed Larry Ely. He is challenged by John Babinecz, another pick up from elsewhere.

The secondary has been porous. The returnees are Craig Clemons, Doug Plank, Allan Ellis and return specialist Virgil Livers plus Billy Knox. There will be competition. The versatile Baschnagel will be tried at safety and could play there. His Rose Bowl enemy, John Sciarra, was drafted fourth but signed with Canada's British Columbia Lions when the Bears has no idea of playing him at QB.

1975 LEADERS NFC RATINGS

SCORING —Thomas, 57 points on 18 XP, 13 field goals	12th
RUSHING —Payton, 196 carries for 679 yds., 3.5 Avg., 7 TDs	9th
PASSING —Huff, 114 of 205 attempts for 1083 yds., 3 TDs	12th
RECEIVING —Rather, 39 receptions for 685 yds., 2 TDs	19th
INTERCEPTIONS —Clemons, 2 for 109 yds., 54.5 Avg., 1 TD	43rd
PUNTING —Parsons, 93 punts, 39.0 Avg., longest 60 yds.	11th
PUNT RETURNS —Livers, 42 for 456 yds., 10.9 Avg.	3rd
KICKOFF RETURNS —Payton, 14 for 444 yds., 31.7 Avg.	1st

Pre-Season Games

July	31 AT Denver (N)
Aug.	7 AT Seattle (N)
	14 BALTIMORE (N)
	21 ST. LOUIS (N)
	21 St. Louis (N)
	28 AT Tampa (N)
Sept.	3 AT Washington (N)

	1976 SCHEDULE	1975 Scores
Sept.	12 DETROIT	25-21
	19 AT San Francisco	3-31
	26 ATLANTA	—
Oct.	3 WASHINGTON	—
	10 AT Minnesota	3-28
	17 AT Los Angeles	10-38
	23 AT Dallas	—
	31 MINNESOTA	9-13
Nov.	7 OAKLAND	—
	14 AT Green Bay	7-28
	21 AT Detroit	7-27
	28 GREEN BAY	27-14
Dec.	5 AT Seattle	—
	12 DENVER	—

Cornerback Wayne Rhodes was a second fourth-round draft choice.

The kicking game is average. Bob Thomas returns as the placement kicker. Rookie Tom Klaban challenges him. Tight end Parsons is the punter.

"We're not ready to challenge Minnesota in our division yet," Finks said. "We're not that good yet. When we are, we won't hesitate in saying we're good."

It'll be a bit before the Bears claim they have prime beef in what used to be the butcher shop of America.

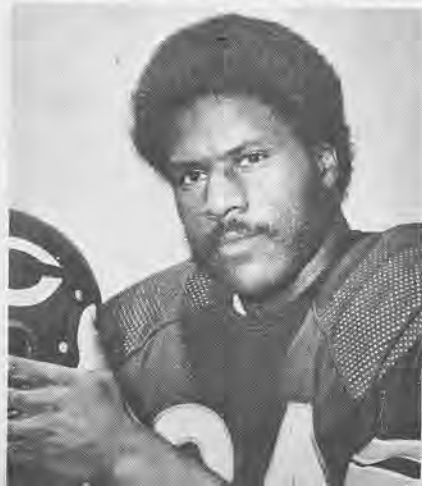
BEARS' VETERAN ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yrs. Pro	College
20	Adamle, Mike	RB	5-9	199	27	6	No'western
79	Antoine, Lionel	T	6-6	258	26	5	So. Illinois
74	Asher, Bob	T	6-6	258	28	6	Vanderbilt
7	Avellini, Bob	QB	6-2	212	23	2	Maryland
52	Babinecz, John	LB	6-2	225	26	5	Villanova
	Berry Royce	DE	6-3	250	30	8	Houston
50	Bryant, W.	LB	6-3	232	24	3	Tenn. St.
55	Buffone, Doug	LB	6-2	226	32	11	Louisville
81	Butler, Gary	TE	6-3	235	25	4	Rice
11	Carter, Virg	QB	6-1	185	31	7	Brig. Young
60	Chambers, Wally	DT	6-6	260	25	4	East. Ky.
45	Clemons, Craig	S	5-11	195	27	5	Iowa
36	Donchez, Tom	RB	6-2	216	24	2	Penn St.
48	Ellis, Allan	CB	5-10	184	25	4	UCLA
59	Gersbach, Carl	LB	6-1	230	29	7	W. Chester
27	Grim, Bob	WR	6-0	183	31	10	Oregon St.
35	Harper, Roland	RB	5-11½	201	23	2	La. Tech
84	Harris, Richard	DE	6-5	258	28	6	Grambling
73	Hartenstine, M.	DE	6-3	247	23	2	Penn St.
	Hicks, Tom	LB	6-4	237	24	1	Illinois
72	Hrivnak, Gary	DE	6-5	254	25	4	Purdue
19	Huff, Gary	QB	6-1	194	25	4	Florida St.
65	Jackson, Noah	G	6-2	263	25	2	Tampa
31	Knox, Bill	CB	5-9	193	25	3	Purdue
88	Latta, Greg	TE	6-3	226	24	2	Morgan St.
24	Livers, Virgil	CB-KR	5-8½	178	24	2	West. Ky.
22	Musso, Johnny	RB	5-11	205	26	2	Alabama
51	Neal, Dan	C	6-4	240	27	4	Kentucky
78	Newton, Bob	G	6-4	260	27	6	Nebraska
63	Nordquist, M.	G-C	6-4	236	31	9	Pacific
68	Osborne, Jim	DT	6-3	254	27	5	Southern
86	Parsons, Bob	TE-P	6-5	234	26	5	Penn St.
34	Payton, W.	RB-P	5-10½	211	22	2	Jackson St.
53	Peiffer, Dan	C	6-3	252	25	2	S.E. Mo. St.
58	Pifferini, B.	LB-KC	6-2	226	26	5	UCLA
46	Plank, Doug	S	5-11½	197	23	2	Ohio St.
80	Rather, Bo	WR	6-1	183	26	4	Michigan
87	Reynolds, Tom	WR	6-3	200	27	3	S. Diego St.
57	Rives, Don	LB	6-2	235	25	3	Texas Tech.
76	Rydalch, Ron	DT	6-4	260	24	2	Utah
85	Schubert, Steve	WR	5-10	185	25	3	Mass.
75	Sevy, Jeff	T	6-5	259	26	2	California
25	Shanklin, Ron	WR	6-1	180	28	7	N. Tex. St.
69	Sorey, Revie	G	6-2	260	23	2	Illinois
71	Stillwell, Roger	DT	6-5	256	25	2	Stanford
	Tagge, Jerry	QB	6-2	220	26	4	Nebraska
16	Thomas, Bob	K	5-10	182	24	2	Notre Dame

ROOKIES

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
Abadi, Henry	K	6-3	205	26	Clemson
Andersen, Norm	WR	5-11½	164	23	UCLA
Bergman, Tom	C	6-5	253	23	S.W. Okla.
Baschnagel, Brian	S/RB/WR	6-0	192	22	Ohio St.
Cuile, Ron	RB	6-1	199	21	Oregon St.
Devine, Jr., Dan	WR	5-9	175	21	Milton
Dunlop, Stu	WR	6-2	190	22	Rolla (Mo.)
Evans, Gary	DB	6-0	181	21	N.E. Mo.
Hovey, Jim	LB	6-4	222	23	Kentucky
Jiggett, Dan	T	6-4	256	22	Harvard
Kasowski, Dale	RB	6-2	208	21	No. Dakota
Klaban, Tom	PK	6-1	184	21	Ohio St.
Larkin, Joe	S	5-11	195	24	Boise St.
Lick, Dennis	T	6-3	256	22	Wisconsin
Malham, Mike	LB	6-2	210	23	Ark. State
Marek, Bill	RB	5-8	188	21	Wisconsin
Meyers, Jerry	DT	6-4	245	22	No. Illinois
Morgan, Mike	DB	6-1	190	22	Jackson St.
Muckensturm, J.	LB	6-4	220	20	Ark. State
O'Leary, John	RB	6-0	207	21	Nebraska
Parker, Ron	TE	6-2	213	22	T.C.U.
Perry, Vernon	DE	6-2	202	22	Jackson St.
Pooler, Jim	RB	5-11	195	21	No'western
Reece, C.	CB/WR	6-0	187	22	So. Calif.
Rhodes, Wayne	CB	6-2	180	22	Alabama
Strickland, Ed	K	6-0	200	28	Livingston
Studer, Steve	C	6-0	240	23	Bowl, Green
Tryon, Jeff	DB	6-1	185	21	Boise St.

VIRGIL LIVERS averaged 10.9 yards on punt returns last season.





PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME RANKINGS

Pro Football's Hall of Fame building at Canton, Ohio, was dedicated in 1963 and has welcomed thousands of fans each year since. The National Museum contains mounds of items and artifacts from the early days to the present. There are many sections displaying original equipment and uniforms. In the actual Hall of Fame is a sculptured bronze head and a mural recalling the enshrinee's most significant ability or contribution in Pro Football. It's a great place to visit.

Ever since the Pro Football Hall of Fame's Top Twenty display was created in 1969, Jim Brown, Joe Perry and Jim Taylor have ranked one-two-three as the all-time pro football rushing leaders. However, this triumvirate will most likely be broken up in 1976 when a comparative newcomer jumps into the upper echelon among the game's all-time ground-gaining greats.

The newcomer should be O.J. Simpson, the Buffalo Bills' super-star, whose 1817-yard production in 1975 moved him into fourth place on the all-time list, just 474 yards behind the third-place Taylor and only 1600 yards behind Perry in second place. Ordinarily, a 1600-yard cushion would be considered safe for at least one season but O.J. has surpassed this total two of the last three seasons.

The acceptance of AAFC statistics affects only one position in the rushing rankings but it is a significant position for it enables Perry to hold second place over Taylor. Perry amassed 9723 yards in his 16-year career but, without his AAFC figures with the San Francisco 49ers in his first two seasons, his career total would be only 8378 yards, and thus behind Taylor's 8579-yard production in nine years with the Green Bay Packers and one with the New Orleans Saints. Taylor, incidentally, is joining Jim Brown and Perry this year as a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Brown, the all-time leader, is far ahead of the pack with 12,312 yards for nine seasons of play and only Simpson, of those players currently active, has even a remote chance of catching the former Cleveland Browns' block-buster.

Right now, Brown and Simpson are the only two players to average 1000 yards a season over any significant period of time. Brown's standard for nine years was a whopping 1368 yards while Simpson tallies out at 1160 yards for each of his seven campaigns. Simpson, however, was hampered by a weak Buffalo supporting cast early in his career and did not break into the 1000-yard "club" until his fourth season in 1972. Since that time, he has averaged a stunning 1549 yards in four seasons and, at that pace and if he continues to play, he would catch Brown sometime during the 1978 season.



JIMMY BROWN's record may get competition from OJ Simpson sometime in '78

LEADING LIFETIME RUSHERS

(At the start of the 1976 season)

Player	League	Yrs.	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
<i>Jim Brown</i>	NFL	9	2359	12312	5.2	106
<i>Joe Perry</i>	AAFC-NFL	16	1929	9723	5.0	71
<i>Jim Taylor</i>	NFL	10	1941	8597	4.4	83
O.J. Simpson*	AFL	7	1707	8123	4.8	49
Leroy Kelly	NFL	10	1727	7274	4.2	74
J. H. Johnson	NFL-AFL	13	1571	6803	4.3	48
Floyd Little*	AFL	9	1641	6323	3.9	43
Don Perkins	NFL	8	1500	6217	4.1	42
Ken Willard	NFL	10	1622	6105	3.8	45
Larry Csonka	AFL	7	1286	5900	4.6	41
Steve Van Buren	NFL	8	1320	5860	4.3	69
Bill Brown	NFL	14	1649	5838	3.4	52
Larry Brown*	NFL	7	1510	5819	3.9	35
Rick Casares	NFL-AFL	12	1431	5797	4.1	49
Mike Garrett	AFL	9	1308	5481	4.2	35
Dick Bass	NFL	10	1218	5417	4.4	34
Jim Nance	AFL	8	1341	5401	4.0	45
<i>H. McElhenny</i>	NFL	13	1124	5281	4.7	39
Lenny Moore	NFL	12	1069	5174	4.8	63
Ollie Matson	NFL	14	1170	5173	4.4	39

* Active in 1975 season. — Hall of Fame members in italics. There were no players added to the Top Twenty rushing list in 1975. Of those players active in 1975, Emerson Boozer (5135 yards) stands next in line for membership in the Top Twenty.

PASSING

Otto Graham and Sunny Jurgensen continued to rank as the top two forward passers in the pro football record book in 1975, but their dominance is threatened by a young quarterback, Ken Anderson of the Cincinnati Bengals, who should surpass the 1500-attempt level needed to qualify for lifetime leadership sometime early in the 1976 campaign.

Graham, who would rank No. 6 were his AAFC statistics not included, shows 86.8 rating points for his 10-year career with the Cleveland Browns. This gives him a solid four-point advantage over Jurgensen, who played only in the National Football League and is recognized by the NFL as the lifetime pro football leader. Jurgensen jumped past Len Dawson of the Kansas City Chiefs in his final 1974 season and wound up his career with 82.8 rating points.

However, Anderson, who has won the NFL passing title the last two years, has a sparkling 85.5 rating score after five

seasons in the league and, with his 1466 attempts only 34 shy from the needed 1500 total to qualify for lifetime leadership, Ken should take over the NFL-only leadership sometime during the first three weeks of 1976.

Rating points are the product of the NFL's formula for statistically ranking forward passers which was adopted before the 1973 season. Passers are rated against a pre-fixed performance standard based on statistical achievements of all qualified pro passers since 1960. Four categories are included. They are percentage of completions, percentage of touchdowns, percentage of interceptions and average yards per attempt.

Dawson, the NFL lifetime leader until Jurgensen's surge in 1974, edged nearer Jurgensen in 1975, raising his point score from 82.1 to 82.6. If Len plays in 1976, he will stand a good chance of overtaking Sonny.

LEADING LIFETIME PASSERS

(At the start of the 1976 season)
Minimum 1500 Attempts

Rank	Player	Pre-1970 League	Yrs.	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.	Points
1	Otto Graham	AAFC-NFL	10	2626	1464	23,584	174	135	86.8
2	Sunny Jurgensen	NFL	18	4262	2433	32,224	255	189	82.8
3	Len Dawson*	NFL-AFL	19	3741	2136	28,711	239	183	82.6
4	Fran Tarkenton*	NFL	15	5225	2931	38,840	291	212	81.4
5	Bart Starr	NFL	16	3149	1808	24,718	152	138	80.3
6	Johnny Unitas	NFL	18	5186	2830	40,239	290	253	78.2
7	Frank Ryan	NFL	13	2133	1090	16,042	149	111	77.7
8	Norm Van Brocklin	NFL	12	2895	1553	23,611	173	178	75.3
	Sid Luckman	NFL	12	1744	904	14,686	139	132	75.3
10	Bob Griese*	AFL	9	2205	1199	16,002	128	116	74.9
11	Roman Gabriel*	NFL	14	4403	2319	28,953	199	147	74.7
	Don Meredith	NFL	9	2308	1170	17,199	135	111	74.7
13	Y.A. Tittle	AAFC-NFL	17	4395	2427	33,070	242	248	74.4
14	Earl Morrall*	NFL	20	2663	1369	20,661	160	147	74.3
15	Frank Albert	AAFC-NFL	7	1564	831	10,795	115	98	73.5
16	Daryle Lamonica	AFL	12	2601	1288	19,154	164	138	72.9
17	John Brodie	NFL	17	4491	2469	31,548	214	224	72.3
18	Billy Wade	NFL	13	2523	1370	18,530	124	134	72.2
19	Bill Kilmer*	NFL	13	2531	1355	17,740	128	126	72.1
20	Sammy Baugh	NFL	16	2995	1693	21,886	186	203	72.0

* Active in 1975 — Hall of Fame members in italics

Bill Kilmer was the only new player entering the Top Twenty in 1975. He displaced Craig Morton, who started the 1975 season in 16th position with a 73.4 rating. Of those players still active with more than 1500 attempts, Morton (71.6) and Bill Munson (71.1) rank highest among those not on the Top Twenty list. However, two other actives, Ken Anderson (85.5) and Roger Staubach (79.8), should reach the 1500-attempt mark during the 1976 season and thus the Top Twenty listing.

OTTO GRAHAM rates highest passer. SONNY JURGENSEN close for 2nd.



RECEIVING

Charley Taylor, glue-fingered pass-grabber of the Washington Redskins, whose two catches against the Philadelphia Eagles last December 21, vaulted his career total to 635 and made him history's top receiver. Don Maynard, who caught most of his 633 passes for the New York Jets, holds second place ahead of Ray Berry the Pro Football Hall of Fame member whose 631 catches all came with the Baltimore Colts.

Taylor's reception record has been accomplished in 12 seasons while Berry took 13 and Maynard 15 to amass their totals. In view of his steady pace of the last three years, the one-time halfback stands an excellent chance of being the first receiver to reach the once-thought-unattainable 700-catch plateau.

The Arizona State graduate started his NFL career with the Redskins in 1964 as a running back and he played at that spot for three seasons. Still his receiving figures were impressive from the start with 165 catches for those three seasons. His single-season high of 72 receptions came in 1966, the final year that Taylor spent any significant time at running back. Taylor reached the 70 mark for one season in 1967, when he won a second straight NFL pass receiving crown, and in 1969. He did not break into the Top Twenty until the 1970 season.

Fred Biletnikoff, the veteran wide receiver of the Oakland Raiders, caught 43 passes in 1974 to jump from 14th place to the 9th spot in the all-time standings. Biletnikoff now has 493 career catches and a similar 43-catch performance in 1976 would vault him to the No. 6 spot ahead of Tommy McDonald (495), Billy Howton (503) and Bobby Mitchell (521).

LIFETIME RECEIVERS

(At the start of the 1976 season)

Rank	Player	Yrs.	No.	Yds.	TD
1	Charley Taylor*	12	635	8952	79
2	Don Maynard	15	633	11834	88
3	Raymond Berry	13	631	9275	68
4	Lionel Taylor	9	567	7195	45
5	Lance Alworth	11	542	10266	85
6	Bobby Mitchell	11	521	7954	65
7	Billy Howton	12	503	8459	61
8	Tom McDonald	12	495	8410	84
9	F. Biletnikoff*	11	493	7692	62
10	Don Hutson	11	488	7991	99
11	Art Powell	10	479	8046	81
12	Boyd Dowler	12	474	7270	40
13	Jackie Smith*	13	472	7847	39
14	Pete Retzlaff	11	452	7412	47
15	Carroll Dale	14	438	8271	52
16	Mike Ditka	12	427	5812	43
17	Roy Jefferson*	11	424	7175	50
18	Bob Joe Conrad	12	422	5902	38
19	Jerry Smith*	11	413	5415	58
20	Otis Taylor	10	410	7306	57
20	Charley Hennigan	7	410	6823	51

* Active in 1975 season

Hall of Fame members in italics

There were no displacements from the Top Twenty in 1975, but there was one addition, Jerry Smith. Of those players who were active in 1975, Gary Garrison (401 receptions) and John Gilliam (350 receptions) are the next in line for the Top Twenty.

SCORING

Just 26 years, two months and 10 days after he scored his first pro football points on October 2, 1949, George Blanda reached the 2000-point scoring plateau on the final day of the 1975 season.

That remarkable accomplishment made the top news in the Pro Football Hall of Fame's Top Twenty scoring display at Canton, Ohio during the 1975 campaign. The Top Twenty exhibition is one of the most popular at the pro grid shrine for it features attractive, three-dimensional ranking charts of the top individual lifetime leaders in passing, receiving, scoring and rushing statistics.

Changed weekly during every season, the Hall's display differs from other similar statistical rankings in that records from the All-America Football Conference are included. Most lifetime rankings include only statistics from the American Football League and the National Football League.

Blanda's 2000th point came on the second of his four successful extra point attempts in the Oakland Raiders' 28-20 win over the Kansas City Chiefs. With the attainment of this once-thought-to-be-impossible goal, George can point with pride to two other stupifying facts—at 48 he is the oldest ever to play pro football and his 26 seasons of play put him far ahead of any other player. Hall of Famer Lou Groza ranks second in the number of seasons played with 21 campaigns with the Cleveland Browns.

George tallied his first points in the second game of his rookie 1949 season with the Chicago Bears. He scored on a 36-yard field goal to help the Bears de-

feat the cross-town Chicago Cardinals, 17-7. That first year, the former Kentucky University ace tallied 27 points on one touchdown and seven of 15 field goals attempted. At the time of his retirement in 1959 after 10 years in the NFL, George's point total stood at 541, impressive for the day in which he was playing but insignificant when compared with what was to come.

The formation of the AFL in 1960 prompted Blanda to come out of retirement and his achievements over the last 16 years, first with the Houston Oilers and since 1967 with the Oakland Raiders, have assured George of a lasting place in pro football history. In his play with the Oilers and Raiders, he has chalked up 1461 points, six times scoring 100 or more points in a single season.

Other developments in the Hall's Top Twenty scoring display in 1975 found two newcomers, Roy Gerela of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Garo Yepremian of the Miami Dolphins, joining the elite circle. Gerela moved into 19th position with 671 points and Yepremian was just a step behind with 666 tallies.

Other position changes saw Jim Bakken of the St. Louis Cardinals jump from No. 5 to No. 4 and Jim Turner of the Denver Broncos move up from sixth to fifth position. Dropping two positions to make room for Bakken and Turner was Gino Cappelletti, the retired star of the old Boston Patriots. Jan Stenerud of the Kansas City Chiefs also moved up two spots from No. 12 to No. 10, dropping Bobby Walston and Pete Gogolak each one position in the process.



GEORGE BLANDA continues to add points to his amazing 2002 career.

LEADING LIFETIME SCORERS
(At the start of the 1976 season)

Rank	Player	Pre-1970 League	Yrs.	TD	XP	FG	Total Points
1	George Blanda*	NFL-AFL	26	9	943	335	2002
2	Lou Groza	AAFC-NFL	21	1	810	264	1608
3	Fred Cox*	NFL	13	0	462	255	1227
4	Jim Bakken*	NFL	14	0	439	244	1171
5	Jim Turner*	AFL	12	0	391	252	1147
6	Gino Cappelletti	AFL	11	42	350	176	1130
7	Bruce Gossett	NFL	11	0	374	219	1031
8	Sam Baker	NFL	15	2	428	179	977
9	Lou Michaels	NFL	13	1	386	187	955
10	Jan Stenerud*	AFL	9	0	287	218	941
11	Bobby Walston	NFL	12	46	365	80	881
12	Pete Gogolak	AFL-NFL	10	0	344	173	863
13	Don Hutson	NFL	11	105	172	7	823
14	Paul Hornung	NFL	9	62	190	66	760
15	Jim Brown	NFL	9	126	0	0	756
16	Tom Davis	NFL	11	0	348	130	738
17	Mike Clark	NFL	10	0	325	133	724
18	Lenny Moore	NFL	12	113	0	0	678
19	Roy Gerela*	AFL	7	0	227	148	671
20	Garo Yepremian*	NFL-AFL	8	0	261	135	666

* Active in 1975 — Hall of Fame members in italics

Roy Gerela and Garo Yepremian were added to the Top Twenty rankings in 1975, displacing Ben Agajanian (655 points) and Gordy Soltau (644 points). Of those players active in 1975, Don Cockroft (657), Horst Muhlmann (630) and Errol Mann (619 points) are the next in line for the Top Twenty.

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first-rounders which make it a good draft.

"The most important choices to a team are the rounds 4 through 17," says Upton. "Everyone knows about the players who will go in the first three rounds. But anyone you pick from round 4 on is a bonus."

As Oakland's Al Lo Casale says, "I know about the guys at Michigan State. Tell me about the guys at Michigan Tech."

They have a point.

Stan White, who intercepted more passes for Baltimore than any linebacker in the NFL last year, was drafted in the 17th and final round. Another of the Colts' famed 17th-rounders, fullback Don Nottingham, scored 12 touchdowns and gained 718 yards for Miami last year.

Washington and Dallas battled all season for the Eastern Division championship of the National Conference and two of the principals were 13th-round draftees—Washington's new "money" pass receiver, Frank Grant, and

Dallas' starting tight end, Jean Fugett (who signed with the Redskins this year after playing out his option).

Another famed 13th-rounder is phasing out his career in Miami—after playing for a dozen seasons. Nick Buoniconti was a little guard at Notre Dame. "He'll run through a brick wall, but he makes a very small hole," said one of the Irish coaches. But the old Boston Patriots drafted him on Round 13 and he was an all-pro for them before becoming the keystone of Miami's No-Name defense.

A surprise sixth-rounder, Steve Towle, filled in amazingly well when Buoniconti missed the season last year and now appears to be his heir.

The automobile business and pro football are two of the few industries in which crossing your bridges before you come to them considered good business.

While this year's NFL rookie crop was being drafted, the scouts were out deciding who was

worth what in the '77 bunch.

When draft time '77 comes up, the scouts say this list won't be far off:

California quarterback Joe Roth

Southern California running back Ricky Bell

Pittsburgh running back Tony Dorsett

Colorado tight end Don Hasselbeck

Oklahoma offensive tackle Mike Vaughn

Michigan wide receiver Jim Smith

Nebraska defensive tackle Mike Fultz

Southern California defensive tackle Gary Jeter

Oklahoma State defensive tackle Phillip Dokes

Texas A&M safety Lester Hayes

Texas A&M linebacker Robert Jackson

Nebraska quarterback Vince Ferragamo

California wide receiver Wesley Walker. □

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QBs (Continued from page 12)

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CHIEFS — Mike Livingston (homegrown); Tony Adams (via Chargers, Sun-WFL); Wayne Clark (via Chargers, Bengals, Eagles).

DOLPHINS — Bob Griese (homegrown); Earl Morrall (via 49ers, Steelers, Lions, Giants, Colts); Jim Del Gaizo (via Dolphins, Packers, Giants); Don Strock (homegrown).

PATRIOTS — Steve Grogan (homegrown); Tom Owen (via 49ers).

JETS — Joe Namath (homegrown); Al Woodall (homegrown); J.J. Jones (homegrown).

RAIDERS — Ken Stabler (homegrown); George Blanda (via Bears, Colts, Oilers); David Humm (homegrown); Larry Lawrence (via Calgary-CFL, Edmonton-CFL).

STEELERS — Terry Bradshaw (homegrown); Terry Hanratty (homegrown).

CHARGERS — Dan Fouts

(homegrown); Jesse Freitas (homegrown).

BUCCANEERS — Steve Spurrier (via 49ers); James Foote (via Jets, Oilers); Bill Cappleman (via Vikings, Eagles, Lions).

NFC

FALCONS — Steve Bartkowski (homegrown); Kim McQuilken (homegrown); Scott Hunter (via Packers, Bills).

BEARS — Bob Avellini (homegrown); Gary Huff (homegrown); Virgil Carter (via Bears, Bills, Bengals, Fire-WFL, Chargers).

COWBOYS — Roger Staubach (homegrown); Clint Longley (homegrown).

LIONS — Bill Munson (via Rams); Greg Landry (homegrown); Joe Reed (via 49ers).

PACKERS — Lynn Dickey (via Oilers); Don Milan (via Raiders, Jets, Chiefs, Raiders, Rams).

RAMS — James Harris (via Bills); Ron Jaworski (homegrown).

VIKINGS — Fran Tarkenton (via Vikings, Giants); Bob Berry

(via Eagles, Vikings, Falcons); Bob Lee (via Vikings, Falcons).

SAINTS — Archie Manning (homegrown); Bobby Douglass (via Bears, Chargers); Bobby Scott (homegrown); Dean Carlson (via Chiefs); Joe Gilliam (via Steelers).

GIANTS — Craig Morton (via Cowboys); Carl Summerell (homegrown); Mike Wells (via Vikings).

EAGLES — Roman Gabriel (via Rams); Mike Boryla (via Bengals).

CARDINALS — Jim Hart (homegrown); Dennis Shaw (via Bills).

49ERS — Jim Plunkett (via Patriots); Norm Snead (via Redskins, Eagles, Vikings, Giants).

SEAHAWKS — Neil Graff (via Patriots); Gary Keithley (via Cardinals).

REDSKINS — Billy Kilmer (via 49ers, Saints); Randy Johnson (via Falcons, Giants, Hawaiians-WFL); Joe Theismann (via Toronto-WFL, Dolphins); Pat Sullivan (via Falcons). □

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Canadian Football League

By **DICK BACON**

Veteran football writer for Montreal Gazette, Dick Bacon has covered CFL 22 years.



PREDICTIONS

Western Conference

1. Edmonton Eskimos
2. Winnipeg Blue Bombers
3. Saskatchewan Roughriders
4. Calgary Stampeders
5. British Columbia Lions

Eastern Conference

1. Montreal Alouettes
2. Ottawa Rough Riders
3. Toronto Argonauts
4. Hamilton Tiger-Cats

A one line summary of the 1975 Canadian Football League season might read: Artistic success, economic flop.

And the 1976 campaign figures to be more of the same

A simple change in the rules last year to allow blocking on punt returns created all kinds of excitement as it allowed such talented kick returners as Johnny Rodgers, Larry Highbaugh, Dickie Harris, Lewis Porter, Mike Fink, Tom Campana, Rocky Long and Jim Elder to do their thing. Overnight it turned what Montreal Alouette coach Marv Levy described as a "barbaric nothing play" into a potential gamebreaker.

And, as predicted, the CFL

again attracted record crowds but it was more than offset by spiralling costs. Only two of the nine CFL teams. Toronto and Winnipeg, showed a profit.

With sources of revenue apparently exhausted, the league considered increasing the number of games from 16 to 18 to produce added revenue, but a survey by Commissioner Jake Gaudaur showed at least two teams—Montreal and Saskatchewan—would lose money if the schedule was expanded. The study was based on average 1975 attendance and the increased travel and player costs would have resulted in even more red ink.

However, there are encouraging signs. Toronto, easily the healthiest of all CFL franchises with its 30,000 plus season subscribers, will be playing in the newly renovated Canadian National Exhibition Stadium that now seats in excess of 50,000.

Montreal, despite its boast as Canada's No. 1 metropolis, has been almost a football disaster area since the team's glory year of the mid-50s. But for philanthropic sportsman Sam Berger, the franchise might have disappeared. Despite losses that exceeded \$400,000 in '75, \$800,000 in '74 and some years topped one million dollars.

The Alouettes, under the astute leadership of Levy, have made it to the national champi-

onship Grey Cup game the past two years, winning in 1974 and losing 9-8 last November to the Edmonton Eskimos. Both figure to be favored to make it three successive years this season.

The Ottawa Rough Riders, despite a late season surge that earned them first place in the East, ended up a loser on the ledger sheet. But blessed with the best spectator facility in the CFL, including 30,000 seats between the goalines, and a solid team, the Riders are hopeful of showing a profit in '76. The League itself figures to be a certain winner with this year's Grey Cup game scheduled for Toronto's 50,000 seat stadium. With half of those seats selling for a record tops of \$22, Commissioner Gaudaur envisions "the first million dollar gate in Canadian Football League history."

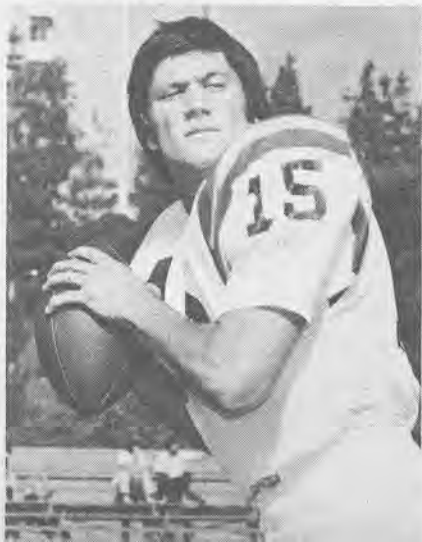
With the death of the World Football League, some observers felt the Canadian Football League would be in a better position to bid for more "name" U.S. collegians and high NFL draft choices. For one reason or another, it didn't quite work out that way in the off-season recruiting by the nine CFL teams.

The Toronto Argonauts, easily the healthiest and wealthiest franchise, bagged the biggest name when they signed former USC and California Sun superstar Anthony Davis to a multi-year \$1 million pact.

The B.C. Lions, once one of the better franchises but now trying to battle its way out of a lengthy lethargy, signed undrafted UCLA Rose Bowl hero John Sciarra, considered too small to make the NFL at quarterback.

Still, with the CFL teams just

JOHN SCIARRA, UCLA Rose Bowl star makes CFL debut with B.C.



a few weeks away from their mid-June reporting time for training camp, the Alouettes were hot in pursuit of Rhodes Scholar Pat Haden, the USC quarterback hero of two years ago and All-Star QB with the now defunct California Sun.

But Canadian teams have found, often, to their chagrin, that the big name players who cost the most don't always equate with instant success. For instance, most of the outstanding ball carriers in the league arrived north of the border unheralded—and fairly cheap. Andy Hopkins of Hamilton and Art Green, the two best runners in the Eastern Conference, were NFL cuts. Out west, Willie Burden, named Canada's Outstanding Player in 1975, was another and so was B.C. Lions Lou Harris.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

EDMONTON (12-4-0)—The Eskimos have won more games than any other team in the CFL during the past four seasons. They've finished first outright three straight years and tied for first the other year. But they've only won the big one—the Grey Cup—once.

And the Green and Gold under head coach Ray Jauch are solid favorites to repeat as Western titlists for the fifth year in a row.

Jauch (pronounced Yawk) has to be laughing as he goes into the 1976 season with an almost set club.

"Well, I'm not exactly laughing, but it's true, we are pretty solid. But what I like about our club is that our average age is only 25.8 years and the average age of our Canadians is even lower than that."

If Jauch has one major concern it's the condition of his premier running back, Roy Bell, a four-year veteran out of Oklahoma who has rushed for more than 1000 yards each season with the Eskimos.

However, Bell tore up his knee in the Grey Cup game against the Montreal Alouettes last November, underwent surgery and Jauch has his fingers crossed "that he comes back as good as new."



ANTHONY DAVIS, former Southern California star, signed with Toronto.

Uncertainty over Bell prompted Edmonton to recruit heavily for running backs and Jauch feels "we got a real good one in Keith Barnett." Barnett comes out of Boston College.

Pudgy Tom Wilkinson (Wyoming) again was the leading passer in the West and is backed up by Bruce Lemmerman.

Calvin Harrell (Arkansas State), is solid at fullback, Canadian Don Warrington is back healthy at slotback and Wilkie and Lemmerman probably have the best set of receivers in the CFL to throw to. George McGowan led the CFL in catches with 97 last year, good for 1433 yards. When he's covered, John Konihowski, Stu Lang, Warrington and tight end Tyrone Walls are equally gifted.

Up front Edmonton has veterans at every position, including a couple of experienced backups. The offensive line is anchored by All-Stars Willie Martin and Charlie Turner. Bill Brown, a 6-5, 300-pound tackle from Michigan State could be the best of the rookie crop.

Edmonton's Front Four is more than respectable with Ron Estay, Tom Laputka and Canadians Dave Fennell and Bill Ste-

venson, supplying the beef. Best of the rookies could be 6-7, 280-pound Ceasar Douglas of Illinois Wesleyan, Ernest Kirk, Howard Payne and Floyd Jones of West Texas State.

Jauch is so satisfied with his linebacking trio of Dan Kepley (East Carolina), Bob McLaren and Dale Potter that he didn't even bring in an import backer.

The Eskimos have the best placekicker in the west—if not the entire CFL, in Canadian Dave Cutler.

WINNIPEG (6-8-2)—The Blue Bombers missed the playoffs in 1974, came back to finish third last year but were eliminated in the semi-final playoffs.

Coach Bud Riley, who admits "we had a very young team that suffered a lot of injuries last year," is much more optimistic about 1976.

"We started out like we were going to be a good football team. But we messed around at quarterback, first going with Chuck Ealey and when he got hurt early, we went with Ralph Brock and he really came on strongly.

While injuries stymied his offense early in the season, it was the Bombers defense that let

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them down when it counted last year.

Winnipeg appears well set in the backfield. Riley has a trio of veterans in Steve Beaird, Jim Washington and Richard Crump who averaged 4.3, 5.3 and 4.2 yards per carry respectively.

Two rookie running backs are pushing the three veterans—Paul Daugherty, a 6-3, 245-pound back from Miami of Ohio and Howard Jones, a 9.3 sprinter from New Mexico State.

The Bombers could be weak at receiving with veteran Bob Laro, a Canadian, and slotback Tom Scott, injured much of '75, the best of a thin corps.

Winnipeg is fairly set up front on offense with 14-year veteran Bill Frank and two Alabama grads, Buddy Brown and Butch Norman all back. And there is a third Crimson Tide lineman around in Buddy Pope, 6-4, 260.

But it was on defense that Riley concentrated his recruiting and with good reason. The Bombers were the most scored on team in the west, allowing a league high 383 points. Tackle Jim Duke retired. Cornerback Paul Williams sat out much of the time with injuries and so did Merv Walker and Brian Herosian the team's best member in the secondary.

But there are some plusses on defense. Riley came up with one of very best middle linebackers in the CFL last year in Harry Walters, and in the off-season they traded for defensive back Jim Elder from Saskatchewan.

Riley, who admits "I might have over-coached a little bit last year," is most concerned about his special teams.

"Our kick coverage had to be the worst in the league last year. In one game, Edmonton scored three touchdowns on kick returns. They just killed us (48-41)."

SASKATCHEWAN (10-5-1)—The Jolly Green Giants from Regina have been chasing the Eskimos to the Grey Cup game for the past three years and it looks as if they will play that same role again in '76.

Coach John Payne has some huge holes to fill, including two

retirements on his offensive line in Jack Abendschan and Clyde Brock. But the biggest blow was George Reed's announcement June 1 that he is calling it quits after 13 years in the CFL.

The former Washington State fullback broke almost every rushing record extant in pro football—on both sides of the border. During his long career, Reed scored more touchdowns rushing (134) than any other football player, gained more yards (16,616) and boasted a 4.97 yard average throughout his 13 years in the game. He had 11 1,000 yard seasons.

One of the candidates for Reed's spot is Pete Van Valkenberg who led the U.S. in rushing during his final year at BYU. Also in camp are Jerry Moses of Iowa State, Alonzo Emery of Arizona State and WFL and Alvin Bowers, a Texas A&M dropout who had an earlier trial with the Riders. "But only Bowers is a fullback," Payne pointed out.

Payne has a couple of fine journeymen Canadians in his backfield in Steve Molnar and Terry Bulych, both of whom play two and three different positions.

Ron Lancaster, the other half of the "Ron and George Show" that has made the Roughies consistent winners, threatened to retire also but now is thinking in terms of "at least one or two more seasons." Backing up the 38-year-old Lancaster is Randy Mattingly (Evansville).

Next to Edmonton, Saskatchewan has the best set of receivers in the West in Rhett Dawson, slotback Tom Campana, Steve Mazurak, and Leif Pettersen, the last two are both Canadians.

Sam Holden (Grambling), Bob Johnson (Wisconsin), Mike Ryan (USC) and Brian Vertefeuille (Idaho State) are the chief imports Payne has brought in for the offensive line.

"Defensively I think we have the best Front Four in the league in George Wells, Mike Dirks, Tim Roth and Jesse O'Neal. If we have a problem it's with our linebacking. We're all right with Roger Goree (Baylor) and Bill Hanchuk (Alberta) outside but we used a whole bunch of people in the middle last year."

The Riders wound up with Danny Rhodes, ex of Arkansas and the Washington Redskins and he figures to start in '76.

The Riders and Winnipeg swapped cornerbacks—Jim Elder to the Blue Bombers for Paul Williams. Canadian Lorne Richardson plays the other corner with Ted Provost at safety flanked by Jim Marshall and Ted Dushinski.

CALGARY (6-10-0)—The 1975 football season was about 15 minutes too long for the Calgary Stampeders.

"We lost seven games in the last two or three minutes or less," recalls GM Gary Hobson, still somewhat stunned by it all. "In fact, two of the games we lost came with no time remaining at all. We were called for penalties on both occasions and the other team beat us on the next play."

The point Hobson was making is that his Stampeders were not as bad as their 6-10-0 record would indicate.

The Stamps were the second best offensive team in the conference (Edmonton was first) but we just gave up too many points. We didn't have any defensive leadership."

It's no surprise, then, Calgary concentrated its off-season recruiting on defensive players. Middle linebacker was one of the most vulnerable spots so they traded for Jamie Rotella, injured and out for the season with a knee injury in a pre-season mishap.

And just to make sure, they signed Ken Achors, 6-2, 220, from Kansas State College.

Defensive linemen were recruited most heavily.

Among the ends the Stamps brought to camp were Jeff Parlinger, rated seventh best collegian in his junior year at Michigan before being injured most of his senior year.

Calgary feels safe with John Helton, a perennial All-Star, and Lorne Sherbina at tackles, but they're looking for help at end where Pete Lazetich and Larry Moore didn't come up with the pass rush they needed.

In addition to Parlinger, other newcomers are Chuck Cilek,

Kent State, Larry Smiley, who taxied two years with the Vikings and Tom Higgins of North Carolina State.

Coach Bob Baker doesn't feel his secondary needs any major shakeup. He has Vernon Robertson at one corner and Larry Cates on the other side. Dennis Meyer, handled the safety spot and Canadian Mike Logan, a converted quarterback, one of the inside halfback positions.

Offensively, the Stamps can be awesome at times. Willie Burden, (a Detroit Lion cut in '74) in his first full season last year, became the all-time single-season rusher in CFL history, carrying the ball 332 times for 1896 yards, 10 TDs and a 5.7 per carry average.

Complementing Burden is Rick Galbos, a fine runner and considered the best blocking back in the CFL.

QB Joe Piscarcik, once he shed his sophomore jitters, wound up with a 56.5 passing percentage and is solidly entrenched under center.

Piscarcik's favorite targets are a pair of Canadians, Rudy Linterman and Tom Forzani, one of three Forzani brothers (all attended Utah State) on the team.

BRITISH COLUMBIA (6-10-0)—The Lions and the Stampeders had more in common than finishing with identical records—and out of the western playoffs. Like the Cowboys, the Lions weren't really that bad.

With Calgary, it was a case of blowing leads in the final seconds. The Lions could have won five or six more games had they any kind of decent placekicking.

"There's no doubt about it," says Lions coach Cal Murphy. "All year long we scored only 36 points on field goals and a team like Edmonton scores as many as 92."

Murphy didn't get the kicker he wanted in the off-season when the Lions failed to make a deal for Montreal's Don Sweet. But Murphy figures Brian Berg may be able to get the job done.

Murphy's off-season recruiting was aimed at more speed in his backfield and shoring up his front Seven. He made one of the best deals when he gave up Brock Ay-

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neley, a wide receiver who played almost nil in '75; defensive end Dave Boone and linebacker Larry Cameron for Canadian Wayne Smith, considered without peer in the CFL—unless it's Bill Baker, another Canadian and now B.C. has them both. And he picked up Jim Stillwagon from Toronto.

In between, Murphy has Gary Robinson and Don Wunderley at tackles. "And I think we've strengthened ourselves with three of the imports we picked up in Reggie Lewis from San Diego State, Ray Baylor, a San Francisco 49er cut, and Neil Skarin from Arizona State."

The Lions have one of the better middle linebackers in veteran import Ray Nettles and they've added Jim Baker, outside 'backer' to replace Cameron who went in the Wayne Smith deal.

The Lions will bring at least four quarterbacks to camp, including holdovers Don Moorhead, Pete Liske and Canadian Eric Guthrie, and newcomers Mike Ernst and John Sciarra, the Rose Bowl star who led UCLA to a stunning victory over Ohio State last January.

Even though Murphy had one of the premier running backs in the league in Lou Harris (USC), who averaged 5.6 yards for 172 carries, he wasn't satisfied.

"All season long we looked for a scatback who could break up a game. We think we may have found one in Mike Strickland, a kid we got from Hamilton (by way of the Vikings and Eastern Michigan).

The Lions are blessed with superior Canadian receivers in Jim Young and Ross Charkson and Slade Willis."

EASTERN CONFERENCE

MONTREAL (9-7-0)—The Alouettes came within seconds and inches—the width of a missed field goal—of winning their second consecutive Grey Cup championship against the Edmonton Eskimos. Instead, holder Jimmy Jones couldn't handle the ball properly in the sub-zero chill at Calgary's McMahon Stadium and the Eskimos held on to win 9-8.

When it was all over, coach Marv Levy summed up the Als shortcomings this way:

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"We have to toughen up our defense. Particularly we need people who can hit. And we need a running back who can go outside."

As in 1974, the bulk of the ball carrier was handled by fullback Steve Ferrughelli, a former Rutgers star and cut of the Washington Redskins. He followed up a 1134-yard season in '74 with 893 yards last year and the Als feel he needs some help.

They thought Larry Sherrer, cut three years ago by the N.Y. Giants, would be the man after his late showing in '74, but an off-season kite flying accident kept him out of action all last year. Levy is hoping he'll return this year as good as new to compete for the running back spot with newcomers Bruce Reimer, a Pittsburgh cut, Mario Cage, a Baltimore dropout, Jimmy Edwards and Cliff Grenaahw, a couple of World Football League fugitives.

Veteran Sonny Wade, who took a backseat to Jimmy Jones

the past two seasons, figures to get a better shot at quarterback in '76.

Up front the Alouettes, who boasted one of the best offensive lines in the league, still are strong, though they did lose Canadian Ray Watrin through retirement. They could use former Notre Damer Frank Pomarico there, or one of several young Canadians like Doug Smith, Gary Chown or Pat Bonnett.

Returning all All-Stars Dave Braggins, Dan Yochum and Wayne Conrad at center. And at tight end they probably have the best pair of hands in the league in veteran Peter Dalla Riva.

Defensively, the Als are set at tackle with Glen Weir and Gordon Judges, both Canadiens. Junior Ah You, coming off a so-so year and multiple injuries, should claim one end spot with Mike Fanucci, Mark Chalmers, Gabriel Gregoire and Bonnett vying for the other end job.

Left linebacker Chuck Zapeic missed virtually all of '75 with a

wrecked knee but he's back and healthy along with Carl Crennel and Mike Widger. And if one of those three goes down or doesn't measure up, Marvin Davis (Southern U.), Durphey Thompson (Prairie View) or Wally Buono could step in.

OTTAWA (10-5-1)—"Coach of the Year" George Brancato gambled on two rookie quarterbacks last year in Tennessee's Con-dredge Holloway and Notre Dame's Tom Clements and came out smelling like a rose. The scrambling Holloway got the Riders off to a 3-0 start but faltered. Clements came on to demonstrate the poise of a veteran when he was needed most and carried the team to the league title. His finest hour came in a flawless 46-6 performance against Montreal in the final game.

However, the Riders were unable to sustain their momentum and two weeks later the Alouettes eliminated them in the playoffs.

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"The best recruiting we did in the off-season was off our own injured reserve list," said Brancato, referring to the worst rash of injuries the team has ever experienced.

The Rough Riders major reconstruction job will be to find somebody to take over for Wayne Smith at defensive end. The one-time All-Star Canadian was traded, by mutual consent, to the B.C. Lions for linebacker and rookie of the year Larry Cameron, defensive end Dave Boone and wide receiver Brock Aynsley.

In addition to Mike Raines, Rudy Sims at tackle, Brancato will have Charlie Brandon, Boone, Jim Piascoski and a couple of young Canadians fighting for the end spots.

Even with the retirement of Wayne Giardino, Ottawa should be well fixed at linebacker with holdovers Gerry (Soupy) Campbell (Idaho), Mark Kosmos (Oklahoma), plus Camron, Kent Carter and possibly Dick Adams who doubles at defensive halfback.

The secondary will undergo at least one change. Veteran Al Marcelin, unhappy over alleged racism on the club, isn't likely to report even though he has a year to run on his contract.

Willie Burks, who former Ottawa coach Jack Gotta had at Birmingham, is a prime candidate for Marcelin's corner spot. Canadian Wayne Tosh is solid at the other corner. In between, Brancato has Ron Woodward back after sitting out the '75 season with a broken arm, Peter Crepin, and import Al Brenner.

Brancato's backfield would seem set with Art Green at fullback, Molly McGee at running back, Jim Foley at slotback and Moody Jackson at wide receiver.

Up front, Brancato has plenty of talent to help his backs move the ball, if they all stay healthy. He has such proven talent as Jim Coode, Steve Neece, Tuufuli Uperesa, Tom Schuete, Brandon, Donn Smith and Bob McKeown to choose from.

"The biggest battle will be on the offensive line where we'll have five imports to choose for three spots." Canadians Turcotte and either Smith or McKeown

will fill two positions. And at tight end, Brancato has the east's top receiver (65 catches) in Tom Gabriel (Syracuse).

Gerry Organ, one of the few placekickers in the CFL who can play regularly at another spot (receiver), was the leading scorer in the EFC in '75 with 124 points, including 27 field goals.

TORONTO (5-10-1)—The Argos at once are the biggest enigma and the most interesting franchise in the CFL. They have the biggest stadium (50,000), the most season ticket holders (33,000) and one of the poorest teams over the past 15 or 20 years.

This year the Argos are going for broke. Owner Bill Hodgson has given J. I. Albrecht, his chief of football operations, almost carte blanche and J.I. signed almost anything that could walk.

The Argos most noteworthy acquisition was former USC great Anthony Davis who signed a multi-year \$1 million dollar deal with the Double Blue. Along

with fullback Doyle Orange, second year coach Russ Jackson hopes he has the best one-two running punch in the league.

Jackson, probably the greatest native Canadian to play the game (he was three times the CFL's Most Outstanding Player while a quarterback with Ottawa), understated the case when he said "we have a big job ahead of us."

His biggest task quite likely will come before the Argos play their first league game. Jackson opened his rookie camp May 31 with 145 new players and six assistant coaches.

Davis, of course, is expected to be a shoo-in and Jackson is in a strong position at quarterback. Toronto traded for Chuck Ealey late last year. Steve Joachim was in the wings. And they picked up Matthew Reed, the 6-4 signal caller who guided Birmingham to their WFL title.

In addition to Davis and Orange in his backfield, Jackson has holdovers Dickie Morton, Dave

Hadden, "plus a bunch more whose names escape me at the moment," he said.

Jackson has his offensive line returning, including former All-Star center Morris Zubkevich who sat out last year with injuries. Also Terry Shelsta, also plagued with injuries in '75, plus Tom Terhart, Wayne Cuncic, Mike Horton and tight end Peter Muller, another injury victim last year.

Defensively, Jackson has the best defensive end in the East in Canadian Jim Corrigan, imports Granville Liggins is back but former Ohio State All-America Jim Stillwagon was traded to B.C.

But the linebacking situation is wide open. Gene Mack was cut in the off-season, along with defensive tackle Garrett Hunsperger and corner John Williams (who returned to Hamilton).

The most notable newcomer in the secondary is Wonderful Monds II from Nebraska. The Argos will have Steve Dennis,

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Wayne Allison and Barry Finlay back along with All-CFL Larry Uteck.

HAMILTON (5-10-1)—The Tiger-Cats, once the scourge of the East, are still struggling to regain even a portion of their lost glory. They managed to slip into the playoffs last year almost strictly on the ineptness of the Toronto Argonauts.

Several changes are expected with the 'Cats this year, starting with new head coach George Dickson, perhaps the most traveled head coach in professional football. A former Notre Dame player (circa Frank Leahy), he most recently was offensive coordinator for the San Diego Chargers but also held assistants jobs with Washington, New Orleans, Houston, Atlanta and Oakland, though not necessarily in that order.

Dickson replaces Jerry Williams, the onetime Philadelphia Eagles head man and head coach at Calgary in the late '60s.

He does admit, however, that defense will be his prime concern once the team begins training. The 'Cats were the most scored upon team in the CFL last season, giving up 395 while scoring a third lowest 285.

Hamilton has veteran quarterback Jerry Keeling back along with sophomore Jim McMillan (Idaho State). Two rookies rounding out the QB corps are Charlie Baggett, All-Big Ten performer and Chris Kupec from North Carolina.

"I know Baggett is a player," Dickson said. "Whether he possesses the talent to pass we won't know until we get out there. He can run and he can move, we know that much."

Dickson has one of the finest all-around backs in the CFL in Andy Hopkins to build around.

"One thing I really like about him from what I've seen in the films is that he can also block and run and I have a great appreciation for backs who can do that as well as run."

The Tiger-Cats front line on offense was suspect the last few seasons, but one addition Dickson feels should help the club is

Elton Brown, picked up from British Columbia.

Defensively Mike Samples is the only outstanding member of the Front Four back but Dickson has numerous rookies who'll get a shot including John Ricca from Duke, Don Schanz, Indiana, and Dennis Turner and David Douglas, "a couple of guys from the WFL."

The 'Cats gave up Jamie Rotella, hurt most of last year with knee problems, but are hoping his brother, Mike, can fill the middle linebacking spot.

Dickson realizes he has a full scale rebuilding job facing him and one of the biggest holes he must fill is the loss of Canadian placekicker Ian Sunter. Sunter played out his option in '75 and is headed for the NFL where Dickson feels "he's well qualified."

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WESTERN CONFERENCE

EDMONTON Eskimos

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St.; Henry Greene, Southern U.; Ceasar Douglas, Illinois Wesleyan; Joe Hollimon, Arkansas St.; Ernest Kirk, Howard Payne; Don Muse, Missouri; Charlie Miller, Cleveland Browns; Billy Ray Nash, Claremont (Cal.); Ted Smith, Ohio St.; Don Layton, San Francisco 49ers; Brandt Yocom, Iowa.

SASKATCHEWAN Roughriders

Bruce Adams, Minnesota Vikings; Larry Bailey, WFL; Chuck Bailey, WFL; Brent Blackman, Oklahoma St.; Alvin Bowers, Texas A&M; Alonzo Emery, St. Louis Cardinals; Sam Holden, WFL; Bob Johnson, K.C. Chiefs; Calvin Miller, WFL; Jerry Moses, Iowa St.; Danny Rhodes, Baltimore Colts; Mike Ryan, WFL; Mike Russell, Atlanta Falcons; Pete Van Valkenburg, Chicago Bears; Cleveland Vann, WFL; Brian Verte-feuille, WFL; John Washington, L.A. Rams.

WINNIPEG Blue Bombers

Ollie Bakken, Minnesota; Jim Boyle, Montana St.; Terry Buss, Wisconsin; Paul Daugherty, Miami (Ohio); Hank Dombrowski, Memphis St.; Harold Evans, Houston; Will Fuller, North Alabama; Dennis Gains, Albany St.; Terry Grammer, Jacksonville St.; Mel Hinton, West Chester St.; Howard Jones, New Mexico St.; Tyrone King, Alabama; Tim Maitre, Memphis St.; Greg Montgomery, Alabama; Buddy Pope, Alabama; Tom Waddell, UCLA; Chuck Willis, Oregon.

BRITISH COLUMBIA Lions

Allen Brown Jr., Hawaii; Edgar Bell, New Mexico; Jim Baker, Arizona St.; David Benson, Wilbur Wright JC; Doug Collins, Cincinnati; Mike Ernst, Fullerton; Greg Dubinetz, Cincinnati Bengals; Rick Hauri, New Mexico; Jack Holmes, Tex. Southern; Jimmie Jones, UCLA; Barry Santini, Purdue; John Sciarra, UCLA; Merced Solis, West Texas St.; Fred Tabron, SW Missouri; Alan Webster, So. Colorado.

CALGARY Stampeders

Gary McClung, Oklahoma; John Dilworth, NW Louisiana; Rene Garnett, Idaho St.; Rudy McLinon, Xavier; Danie Hall, Indiana St.; Dan Rambo, Carroll College; Jamie Rotella, Tennessee; Larry Smiley, Minnesota; Tim Anchors, Kansas St.; Patrick Tittle, Pacific; Ed Poole and Tom Higgins, North Carolina St.; Robert McCall, Arizona St.; David Williams, Colorado; George Mills, Nebraska; Ken Mcarnan, Eastern Mich.; Tom Sherman, Penn St.; Gary Eckert, No. Colorado; Tom Mills, Indiana; Bill Palmer, Bowling Green; Paul Krause, Colorado.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

MONTREAL Alouettes

Greg Bangston, East Mich.; Joe Barnes, Chicago Bears; Mario Cage, NW Louisiana; Baltimore Colts; Mark Chalmers, Texas; Cliff Crenshaw, New Mexico; Marvin Davis, Southern U; Fred DeBernardi, UTEP; Jimmy Edwards, NE Louisiana; George Hasenohrl, N.Y. Giants; John Kraus, Delaware; Bruce Reimer, Pittsburgh Steelers; Durphey Thompson, WFL; Merle Wang, WFL; Larry Willis, Washington Redskins.

OTTAWA Rough Riders

Richard Amman, Florida St., San Antonio Wings; David Boone, Minnesota Vikings; Lowry Brilley, East Tex. St.; New England Patriots; Willie Burkes, WFL; Merle Code, WFL; Scott Crawford, Lenoir Rhyne; Allen Danos, Nich-



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HAMILTON Tiger-Cats

Charlie Baggett, Mich. State; Tony Bertucca, Chico St.; Baltimore Colts; Reggie Berry, Long Beach St.; Elton Brown, Utah St.; B.C. Lions; Jerry Codutti, VMI; Craig Cotton, Youngstown; Lance Cotton, Hayward; Tass Ellinger, Utah; Ted Forest, Western Mich.; Bill Hairston, SW Louisiana; Frank Holes, Northern Mich.; Leroy Hunt, Ferris St.; Bob Heimbaugh, Missouri Western; Ron Kuceyeski, NW Louisiana; Chris Kupec, North Carolina; Lamar Lewis, Bethune Cookman; Dan Lintner, Indiana; Mike McCoy, West Kentucky; Don McNeal, Central Mich.; Ronald Pettitt, Bishop; John Provost, Holy Cross; John Ricca, Duke; Mike Rotella, Tennessee; Don Schanz, Indiana; Clint Sigman, Boise St.; Willie Walker, NE Louisiana.

TORONTO Argonauts

Steve Adzima, Patterson; Tom Alonardo, Boston St.; Amos Augustine, Grambling; Mike Beatrice, Boston St.; George Beattie, Arcadia; Ed Beverly, Ariz. St.; Steve Booras, Mesa; Gary Boyle, Plymouth; Jim Brechtel, Maryland; Gary Brooks, Sheridan; Kelvin Brooks, Boston U.; Ecomet Burley, Tex. Tech.; Steve Caiazzo, Minnesota; Andy Calhoun, Tex. Southern; Bert Camut, Miami; Dana Carpenter, So. Carolina; Tom Chandler, Minnesota; Bob Chess, Las Vegas; Gail Clark, Mich. State; Gene Clark, UCLA; Herb Cole, West Carolina; Percy Coleman, Alabama; Marvin Crenshaw, Nebraska; Kevin Crocker, Idaho St.; Dale Curry, UCLA; Anthony Davis, USC; Bill Davis, California; Jim DeRatt, No. Carolina; Sam Dickerson, USC; Rick Dingle, Springfield; Brian Dowling, Yale; Ron Duckett, Trinity (Conn.); Tom Duff, Temple; Curt Edwards, Rutgers; Lou Ferrigno, (no college); Tom Fleming, Dartmouth; Glen Fleming, NE Louisiana; Gerry Flur, C. W. Post; Charlie Foster, Houston; Ron Foss, Alabama A&M; Walter Garwacki, Massachusetts; Jack Gilligan, Auburn; Jerry Gold, Westminster; Fred Grona, Panhandle; David Hernandez, Kansas St.; Peter Hewitt, St. Lawrence; Walter Highsmith, Fla. A&M; Bobby Lee Hinton, Ala. A&M; Mike Hintz, C. W. Post; Rick Horn, Boston U.; Gary Hudson, Boston Col.; Greg Hudson, Ariz. St.; Mike Johns, Vermont; Rubin Jones, N.E. La.; Gordon Knowlton, Jacksonville; Gary Little, Mass.; Mark Llewellyn, Vanderbilt; Billy Looker, Vermont; Russell Ludemann, East Illinois; Don Madden, East Mich.; Sai Manutai, Hawaii; Ricky McCray, UCLA; Jody Medford, Rice; Willie Miller, Tampa; Wonderful Monds II, Nebraska; Donnie Moore, Tufts; Bobby Myrick, E. Carolina; Stephen Nelson, Plymouth; Rick Noel, Idaho St.; Mark Occhipinti, Rhode Island; Robert Olson, Notre Dame; Tony Parisi, Wagner; Ron Pelligra, St. Lawrence; Jim Pratt, New Mex. St.; Frank Prochilo, C. W. Post; Fred Quinland, Plymouth; Matthew Reed, Grambling; Randy Rehner, Idaho St.; Nick Roman, Ohio St.; Dan Shaw, Curry; Jim Sims, USC; Vincent Sinagra, Rhode Island; Bruce Smith, Colorado; Pete Stano, Panhandle; Bill Stumpf, Plymouth; Steve Sutton, St. Lawrence; Ralph Thompson, Vermont; Howard Thornton, Ohio St.; Steve Turner, Boston Col.; Ron Vaughn, Rice; Rudy Vido, Alabama St.; Cornelius Walker, Rice; Brian Weeks, Providence; Gary Widhelm, No. Colorado; John Willingham, Wisconsin; Jesse Wolf, Prairie View A&M; Peter Woodward, Rhode Island.

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- Over the last 12 years, Danny has **never** had a losing season.
- Accurately picked **all** 11 College Bowl games, 6 Pro Playoff games, and Super Bowl in 1974 for Harold Peterson of Sports Illustrated (18-0 or 100% vs. spread!).
- In 1975 he correctly picked 8 of 11 College Bowl games plus AFC & NFC Title games and Super Bowl.
- Picked **every** Super Bowl correctly (100% vs. spread since 1966) plus he has correctly picked 45 of the last 50 Pro Playoff games (90% vs. spread).

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OFFICIAL 1975 NFC and AFC RECORDS

NFC SCORING

RECORDS

Points—176, Paul Hornung, G.B. (1960)
TD's—22, Gale Sayers, Chicago (1965)
22, Chuck Foreman, Minnesota (1975)
FG's—33, Chester Marcol, Green Bay (1972)
XP—56, Danny Villanueva, Dallas (1966)

	Td.	P.	XP	FG	FGA	Tot. Pts.
Foreman, Minn.	13	9	0	0	0	132
Fritsch, Dall.	0	0	38	22	35	104
Bakken, St.L.	0	0	40	19	24	97
Dempsey, L.A.	0	0	31	21	26	94
Cox, Minn.	0	0	46	13	17	85
Moseley, Wash.	0	0	37	16	25	85
Muhlmann, Phil.	0	0	21	20	29	81
Metcalfe, St.L.	11	2	0	0	0	78
Mike-Mayer, S., S.F.	0	0	27	14	28	69
Mann, Det.	0	0	25	14	21	67
Gray, St.L.	0	11	0	0	0	66
Thomas, Chi.	0	0	18	13	23	57
Washington, S.F.	0	9	0	0	0	54
Danelo, G.B.	0	0	20	11	16	53
Brockington, G.B.	7	1	0	0	0	48
Grant, Wash.	0	8	0	0	0	48
Pearson, D. Dall.	0	8	0	0	0	48
Szaro, N.O.	0	0	17	10	16	47
Carmichael, Phil.	0	7	0	0	0	42
Dennison, Dall.	7	0	0	0	0	42
Gilliam, Minn.	0	7	0	0	0	42
Hunt, N.Y.G.	0	0	24	6	11	42
Jackson, L.A.	0	7	0	0	0	42
Mike-Mayer, N., Atl.	0	0	30	4	10	42
Payton, Chi.	7	0	0	0	0	42
Thomas, Wash.	4	3	0	0	0	42
Cappelletti, L.A.	6	0	0	0	0	36
Hampton, Atl.	5	1	0	0	0	36
Jenkins, Atl.	0	6	0	0	0	36
Johnson, N.Y.G.	5	1	0	0	0	36
Kotar, N.Y.G.	6	0	0	0	0	36
Otis, St.L.	5	1	0	0	0	36
Rhodes, N.Y.G.	0	6	0	0	0	36
Schreiber, S.F.	5	1	0	0	0	36
Smith, Phil.	0	6	0	0	0	36
Taylor, Wash.	0	6	0	0	0	36
Brown, Wash.	3	2	0	0	0	30
Mitchell, Atl.	1	4	0	0	0	30
Odum, G.B.	1	4	0	0	0	30
Richards, Dall.	1	4	0	0	0	30
Smith, G.B.	4	1	0	0	0	30
Stanback, Atl.	5	0	0	0	0	30
Briscoe, Det.	0	4	0	0	0	24
Bussey, Det.	2	2	0	0	0	24
Francis, Atl.	0	4	0	0	0	24
Jarvis, Det.	0	4	0	0	0	24
Lash, Minn.	1	3	0	0	0	24
Marinaro, Minn.	1	3	0	0	0	24
McNeill, N.O.	2	2	0	0	0	24
Pearson, P. Dall.	2	2	0	0	0	24
Staubach, Dall.	4	0	0	0	0	24
Taylor, Det.	4	0	0	0	0	24
Voigt, Minn.	0	4	0	0	0	24
Williams, S.F.	3	1	0	0	0	24
Bertelsen, L.A.	3	0	0	0	0	18
Fugett, Dall.	0	3	0	0	0	18
Harrell, G.B.	1	2	0	0	0	18
Jessie, L.A.	0	3	0	0	0	18
Johnson, S.F.	3	0	0	0	0	18
Jones, St.L.	2	1	0	0	0	18
Latta, Chi.	0	3	0	0	0	18
Maxson, N.O.	3	0	0	0	0	18
McAlister, Phil.	1	2	0	0	0	18
McCutcheon, L.A.	2	1	0	0	0	18
Mitchell, S.F.	0	3	0	0	0	18
Sanders, Det.	0	3	0	0	0	18
Smith, Wash.	0	3	0	0	0	18
Watkins, N.Y.G.	3	0	0	0	0	18
Young, Charley, Dall.	2	1	0	0	0	18
Young, Charlie, Phil.	0	3	0	0	0	18
Barkowski, Atl.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Bryant, L.A.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Burrow, Atl.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Burton, N.O.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Dawkins, N.Y.G.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Gillette, N.Y.G.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Grim, Chi.	0	2	0	0	0	12
James, Phil.	1	1	0	0	0	12
Jaworski, L.A.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Jefferson, Wash.	0	2	0	0	0	12
King, Det.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Klein, L.A.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Newhouse, Dall.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Parker, N.O.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Rather, Chi.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Reed, Wash.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Scribner, L.A.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Smith, St.L.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Stagers, Det.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Strachan, N.O.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Tarkenton, Minn.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Thomas, St.L.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Tinker, Atl.-G.B.	0	2	0	0	0	12
Torkelson, G.B.	2	0	0	0	0	12
Adams, Chi.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Allen, S.F.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Avellini, Chi.	1	0	0	0	0	6

	Td.	P.	XP	FG	FGA	Tot. Pts.
Ball, Det.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Brown, R., Atl.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Brown, T., Minn.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Brunet, Wash.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Cain, St.L.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Chambers, N.O.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Clemon, Chi.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Coibert, N.Y.G.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Crump, St.L.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Davis, Det.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Douglass, Chi.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Dryer, L.A.	1	0	0	0	0	6
DuPree, Dall.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Dusek, Wash.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Edwards, Chi.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Gabriel, Phil.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Harper, Chi.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Harris, C., Dall.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Harris, J., L.A.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Hart, J., St.L.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Hart, T., S.F.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Henderson, Dall.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Herrmann, N.O.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Holmes, S.F.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Hughes, Dall.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Jackson, M., L.A.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Johnson, Det.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Jones, A., N.O.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Jones, L., Wash.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Kilmer, Wash.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Krause, Minn.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Latin, St.L.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Lavender, Phil.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Lawrence, Atl.	1	0	0	0	0	6
LeMaster, Phil.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Livers, Chi.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Manning, N.O.	1	0	0	0	0	6
McClanahan, Minn.	0	1	0	0	0	6
McCoy, G.B.	1	0	0	0	0	6
McDole, Wash.	1	0	0	0	0	6
McGeorge, G.B.	0	1	0	0	0	6
McGill, S.F.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Miller, Minn.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Moss, St.L.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Myers, N.O.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Nelson, Wash.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Obradovich, N.Y.G.	0	1	0	0	0	6
O'Neil, Det.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Osborn, Minn.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Parsons, Chi.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Pergine, Wash.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Peterson, L.A.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Reed, Det.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Robertson, L.A.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Seal, N.O.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Smith, Barry, G.B.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Snead, S.F.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Snow, L.A.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Thompson, B., Det.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Thompson, N., St.L.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Tucker, N.Y.G.	0	1	0	0	0	6
Washington, S.F.	1	0	0	0	0	6
Waters, Dall.	1	0	0	0	0	6
White, N.Y.G.	1	0	0	0	0	6
McClard, N.O.	0	0	1	1	5	4
Pureifory, G.B.	0	0	2	4	0	1
Marcol, G.B.	0	0	0	1	1	3
Wehrli, St.L.	0	0	1	0	0	1
Safeties: Hartenstine, Chi.; Price, Team, Det.; G.B.; Jack Youngblood, L.A.;						
Beamont, Blahak, Minn.						

RUSHING

RECORDS

Most—305, Jim Brown, Cleve. (1961)
Most Yds.—1863, Jim Brown, Cleve. (1963)
Most TD's—19, Jim Taylor, G.B. (1962)

	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Otis, St.L.	269	1076	4.0	30	5
Foreman, Minn.	280	1070	3.8	31t	13
Hampton, Atl.	250	1002	4.0	22	5
Newhouse, Dall.	209	930	4.4	29	2
Thomas, Wash.	235	919	3.9	34	4
McCutcheon, L.A.	213	911	4.3	43t	2
Metcalfe, St.L.	165	816	4.9	52t	9
Bussey, Det.	157	696	4.4	32t	2
Payton, Chi.	196	679	3.5	54t	7
Strachan, N.O.	161	668	4.1	21	2
Taylor, Det.	195	638	3.3	24	4
Sullivan, Phil.	173	632	3.7	28	0
Williams, S.F.	117	631	5.4	52	3
Pearson, P., Dall.	133	509	3.8	32	2
Bryant, L.A.	117	467	4.0	18	2
Bertelsen, L.A.	116	457	3.9	19	3
Harper, Chi.	100	453	4.5	32	1
Stanback, Atl.	105	440	4.2	26t	5
Dawkins, N.Y.G.	129	438	3.4	15	2
Brockington, G.B.	144	434	3.0	19	7
Dennison, Dall.	111	383	3.5	27	7
Kotar, N.Y.G.	122	378	3.1	46t	6
Maxson, N.O.	139	371	2.7	14	3
Harrell, G.B.	121	359	3.0	26t	1
Marinaro, Minn.	101	358	3.5	14	1
Adams, Chi.	94	353	3.8	21	1
Brown, Wash.	97	352	3.6	43	3
Johnson, N.Y.G.	116	351	3.0	23	5
Schreiber, S.F.	134	337	2.5	15	5
McClanahan, Minn.	92	336	3.7	15	0
McAlister, Phil.	103	335	3.3	18	1
Malone, Phil.	101	325	3.2	18	0
Staubach, Dall.	55	316	5.7	17	4
Watkins, N.Y.G.	68	303	4.5	12	3



O.J. SIMPSON led NFL scoring, 23 TDs and rushing, 1817 yards.

	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Jackson, S.F.	78	303	3.9	44	0
Jones, St.L.	54	275	5.1	23	2
Herron, N.E.-Atl.	62	274	4.4	53	0
Thompson, Det.	51	268	5.3	46t	1
King, Det.	61	260	4.3	26	2
Thompson, Atl.	68	247	3.6	18	0
Smith, Bart, G.B.	60	243	4.1	17	4
Torkelson, G.B.	42	226	5.4	29	2
Young, Dall.	50	225	4.5	29	2
Scribner, L.A.	42	216	5.1	34	2
McNeill, N.O.	61	206	3.4	17	2
James, Phil.	43	196	4.6	51	1
Denson, Wash.	56	195	3.5	14	0
Reed, Det.	34	193	5.7	22	1
Manning, N.O.	33	186	5.6	16	1
Johnson, S.F.	55	185	3.4	26t	3
Latin, St.L.	35	165	4.7	50t	1
Cappelletti, L.A.	48	158	3.3	30t	6
Neison, Wash.	31	139	4.5	16	0
Wells, G.B.	33	139	4.2	25	0
Tarkenton, Minn.	16	108	6.8	21t	2
Jones, N.O.	42	108	2.6	18	1
Osborn, Minn.	32	94	2.9	9	1
Miller, Minn.	30	93	3.1	10	1
Landry, Det.	20	92	4.6	14	0
Spurrier, S.F.	15	91	6.1	14	0
White, N.Y.G.	17	90	5.3	14	1
Smith, Phil.	9	85	9.4	36	0
Edwards, Chi.	27	73	2.7	16	0
Morton, N.Y.G.	22	72	3.3	11	0
Gabriel, Phil.	13	70	5.4	39	1
Phillips, L.A.	17	69	4.1	20	0
Rogers, N.O.	17	62	3.6	22	0
Odum, G.B.	5	55	11.0	27	0
Hadl, G.B.	20	47	2.4	9	0
Grant, Wash.	3	46	15.3	25	0
Harris, L.A.	18	45	2.5	15	1
Ashton, St.L.	10	44	4.4	9	0
Milan, G.B.	4	41	10.3	15	0
Reed, Atl.	14	40	2.9	7	0
Gilliam, Minn.	3	35	11.7	22	0
Theismann, Wash.	3	34	11.3	21	0
Kilmer, Wash.	11	34	3.1	11	1
Musso, Chi.	6	33	5.5	16	0
Boryia, Phil.	8	33	4.1	11	0
Jaworski, L.A.	12	33	2.8	21	2
Snead, S.F.	9	30	3.3	10	1
Staggers, Det.	2	26	13.0	14	0
McQuikien, Atl.	4	26	6.5	14	0
Johnson, S.F.	4	25	6.3	19	0
Rather, Chi.	4	24	6.0	18	0
Brunet, Wash.	6	23	3.8	11	1
Baker, N.O.	1	21	21.0	21	0
Tarver, Phil.	7	20	2.9	9	0
Richard, Dall.	3	18	6.0	11	0
Jessie, L.A.	2	15	7.5	9	0
Bartkowski, Atl.	14	15	1.1	5	2
Hoopes, Dall.	1	13	13.0	13	0
Hammond, St.L.	3	13	4.3	6	0
Francis, Atl.	2	12	6.0	9	0
Longley, Dall.	3	12	4.0	7	0
Moss, St.L.	4	12	3.0	5t	1
Pearson, D., Dall.	1	11	11.0	11	0
Seal, N.O.	1	10	10.0	10	0
Johnson, Wash.	2	10	5.0	10	0
Laidlaw, Dall.	3	10	3.3	10	0
Moore, S.F.	3	10	3.3	4	0

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	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Sullivan, Atl.	6	9	1.5	4	0
Burton, N.O.	2	8	4.0	5	0
Huff, Chi.	5	7	1.4	10	0
Hart, St.L.	11	7	0.6	6	1
Carmichael, Phil.	1	6	6.0	6	0
Gray, St.L.	1	6	6.0	6	0
Beasley, S.F.	1	5	5.0	5	0
Tinker, G.B.	1	5	5.0	5	0
Summerell, N.Y.G.	3	4	1.3	4	0
DePree, Dall.	1	3	3.0	3	0
Eley, Atl.	1	3	3.0	3	0
Avellini, Chi.	4	3	0.8	11	1
Munson, Det.	4	3	0.8	2	0
Briscoe, Det.	2	3	1.5	6	0
Rhodes, N.Y.G.	3	4	1.3	14	0
Holmes, S.F.	1	4	4.0	4	0
Washington, S.F.	1	4	4.0	4	0
Tucker, N.Y.G.	1	5	5.0	5	0

PASS RECEIVING

(4 or more—less if TD)

RECORDS

Most caught—93, John Morris, Chicago (1964)
Most Yds.—1495, Elroy Hirsch, L.A. (1951)
Most pass TD's—17, Don Hutson, G.B. (1942)
17, Elroy Hirsch, L.A. (1951)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Foreman, Minn.	73	691	9.5	33	9
Payne, G.B.	58	766	13.2	54	0
Marinaro, Minn.	54	462	8.6	25	3
Taylor, Wash.	53	744	14.0	64	6
Gilliam, Minn.	50	777	15.5	46	7
Young, Phil.	49	659	13.4	47	3
Carmichael, Phil.	49	639	13.0	62	7
Gray, St.L.	48	926	19.3	74	11
Pearson, D., Dall.	46	822	17.9	46	8
Washington, S.F.	44	735	16.7	68	9
Jackson, L.A.	43	786	18.3	54	7
Gillette, N.Y.G.	43	600	14.0	50	2
Metcalf, St.L.	43	378	8.8	30	2
Grant, Wash.	41	776	18.9	96	8
Jessie, L.A.	41	547	13.3	34	3
Maxson, N.O.	41	234	5.7	33	0
Thomas, Wash.	40	483	12.1	33	3
Schreiber, S.F.	40	289	7.2	20	1
Rather, Chi.	39	685	17.6	54	2
Jenkins, Atl.	38	767	20.2	68	6
Fugett, Dall.	38	488	12.8	54	3
Lash, Minn.	37	535	14.5	45	3
Smith, Phil.	37	515	13.9	46	6
Sanders, Det.	37	486	13.1	32	3
Mitchell, Atl.	34	536	15.8	32	4
Tucker, N.Y.G.	34	484	14.2	47	1
Williams, S.F.	34	370	10.9	30	1
Voigt, Minn.	34	363	10.7	22	4
Johnson, N.Y.G.	34	280	8.2	36	1
Newhouse, Dall.	34	275	8.1	23	0
Harrell, G.B.	34	261	7.7	36	2
Brockington, G.B.	33	242	7.3	21	1

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Payton, Chi.	33	213	6.5	40	0
McGeorge, G.B.	32	458	14.3	43	1
James, Phil.	32	267	8.3	47	1
Smith, Wash.	31	391	12.6	27	3
McCutcheon, L.A.	31	230	7.4	24	1
Strachan, N.O.	30	224	7.5	27	0
Jarvis, Det.	29	501	17.3	62	4
Seal, N.O.	28	414	14.8	38	1
Grim, Chi.	28	374	13.4	57	2
Sullivan, Phil.	28	276	9.9	35	0
Pearson, P., Dall.	27	351	13.0	49	2
Harper, Chi.	27	191	7.1	27	0
Rhodes, N.Y.G.	26	537	20.7	56	6
Mitchell, S.F.	25	366	14.6	60	3
Burrow, Atl.	25	323	12.9	23	2
Brown, Wash.	25	225	9.0	39	2
Briscoe, S.D.-Det.	24	372	15.5	59	4
Dawkins, N.Y.G.	24	245	10.2	39	0
Johnson, S.F.	23	177	7.7	20	0
Richards, Dall.	21	451	21.5	62	4
Thomas, St.L.	21	375	17.9	80	2
Hampton, Atl.	21	195	9.3	24	1
Taylor, Det.	21	111	5.3	17	0
Beasley, S.F.	20	297	14.9	28	0
Bryant, L.A.	20	229	11.5	31	0
Malone, Phil.	20	120	6.0	15	0
Jones, St.L.	19	194	10.2	21	1
Thompson, Det.	19	122	6.4	22	0
Young, Dall.	18	184	10.2	42	1
McClanahan, Minn.	18	141	7.8	38	1
McNeill, N.O.	18	138	7.7	17	2
McAlister, Phil.	17	134	7.9	39	2
Jackson, S.F.	17	128	7.5	20	0
Burton, N.O.	16	305	19.1	71	2
Klein, L.A.	16	237	14.8	44	2
Holmes, S.F.	16	220	13.8	25	1
Latta, Chi.	16	202	12.6	34	3
Smith, Bart, G.B.	16	140	8.8	33	1
Odum, G.B.	15	299	19.9	56	4
Harris, St.L.	15	266	17.7	36	0
Jefferson, Wash.	15	255	17.0	36	2
Adams, L.A.	15	111	7.4	25	0
Bertelsen, L.A.	14	208	14.9	22	0
Bussey, Det.	14	175	12.5	65	2
Staggers, Det.	14	174	12.4	23	2
Stanback, Atl.	14	115	8.2	14	0
Thompson, Atl.	14	92	6.6	14	0
Francis, Atl.	13	270	20.8	67	4
Smith, St.L.	13	246	18.9	45	2
Parsons, Chi.	13	184	14.2	38	1
Denson, Wash.	13	81	6.2	14	0
King, Det.	13	81	6.2	22	0
Hamilton, N.O.	12	210	17.5	44	0
Cain, St.L.	12	134	11.2	18	1
Otis, St.L.	12	69	5.8	12	1
Laidlaw, Dall.	11	100	9.1	25	0
Edwards, Chi.	11	86	7.8	14	1
Childs, N.O.	10	179	17.9	38	0
Jones, N.O.	10	52	5.2	12	0
DuPree, Dall.	9	138	15.3	28	1
Parker, N.O.	9	123	13.7	32	2
Kotar, N.Y.G.	9	86	9.6	17	0

PASSING

(5 or more completions)

RECORDS

Most completions—288, Sonny Jurgensen, Washington (1967)

Most TD's—36, Y. A. Tittle, Giants (1963)

Most Yds.—3747, Sonny Jurgensen, Washington (1967)

Longest for TD—99 yards, Frank Filchock, Washington, to Andy Farkas (1939); George Izo, Washington, to Bobby Mitchell (1963); Carl Sweeten, Detroit, to Pat Studstill (1966); Sonny Jurgensen, Washington, to Gerry Allen (1968).

NFC INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS

	Atts.	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	Avg.	Tds.	Long	Had	Pct.
Tarkenton, Minn.	425	273	64.2	2994	7.04	25	46	13	3.1
Staubach, Dall.	348	198	56.9	2666	7.66	17	62	16	4.6
Kilmer, Wash.	346	178	51.4	2440	7.05	23	96	16	4.6
Harris, L.A.	285	157	55.1	2148	7.54	14	54	15	5.3
Snead, S.F.	189	108	57.1	1337	7.07	9	60	10	5.3
Hart, St.L.	345	182	52.8	2507	7.27	19	80	19	5.5
Gabriel, Phil.	292	151	51.7	1644	5.63	13	62	11	3.8
Morton, N.Y.G.	363	186	51.2	2359	6.50	11	56	16	4.4
Spurrier, S.F.	207	102	49.3	1151	5.56	5	68	7	3.4
Reed, Det.	191	86	45.0	1181	6.18	9	65	10	5.2
Bartkowski, Atl.	255	115	45.1	1662	6.52	13	68	15	5.9
Huff, Chi.	205	114	55.6	1083	5.28	3	49	9	4.4
Hadl, G.B.	353	191	54.1	2095	5.93	6	54	21	5.9
Boryla, Phil.	166	87	52.4	996	6.00	6	46	12	7.2
Manning, N.O.	338	159	47.0	1683	4.98	7	71	20	5.9

Non-Qualifiers

Landry, Det.	56	31	55.4	403	7.20	1	36	0	0.0
Munson, Det.	109	65	59.6	626	5.74	5	32	2	1.8
Lee, Minn.	14	5	35.7	103	7.36	2	33	1	7.1
Milan, G.B.	32	15	46.9	181	5.66	1	56	1	3.1
Owen, S.F.	51	24	47.1	318	6.24	1	24	2	3.9
Avellini, Chi.	126	67	53.2	942	7.48	6	57	11	8.7
Jaworski, L.A.	48	24	50.0	302	6.29	0	25	2	4.2
Johnson, Wash.	79	41	51.9	556	7.04	4	36	10	12.7
Sullivan, Atl.	70	28	40.0	380	5.43	3	49	5	7.1
Longley, Dall.	23	7	30.4	102	4.43	1	23	1	4.3
Scott, N.O.	17	8	47.1	96	5.65	0	33	1	5.9
Theisman, Wash.	22	10	45.5	96	4.36	1	30	3	13.6
Cipa, N.O.	37	14	37.8	182	4.92	1	28	3	8.1
Summerell, N.Y.G.	16	7	43.8	98	6.13	0	41	2	12.5
McQuiken, Atl.	61	20	32.8	253	4.15	1	31	9	14.8

(Less than 10 attempts—but TD)

Brown, G.B.	4	3	75.0	63	15.75	1	27	0	0.0
Harrell, G.B.	5	3	60.0	61	12.20	3	24	0	0.0
Metcalf, St.L.	2	1	50.0	51	25.50	1	51	0	0.0
Newhouse, Dall.	2	1	50.0	46	23.00	1	46	0	0.0
Stanback, Atl.	1	1	100.0	41	41.00	1	41	0	0.0

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Farmer, Chi.-Det.	8	118	14.8	22	0
Tinker, Atl.-G.B.	7	121	17.3	35t	2
Obradovich, N.Y.G.	7	65	9.3	28	1
Watkins, N.Y.G.	7	43	6.1	12	0
Hayes, S.F.	6	119	19.8	36	0
McGee, L.A.	6	83	13.8	22	0
Smith, Barry, G.B.	6	77	12.8	20	1
Craig, Minn.	6	68	11.3	17	0
Torkelson, G.B.	6	37	6.2	12	0
Wells, G.B.	6	11	1.8	4	0
Franklin, Det.	5	109	21.8	36	0
Clune, N.Y.G.	5	97	19.4	41	0
Schubert, Chi.	5	68	13.6	16	0
Nelson, Wash.	5	58	11.6	27t	1
Larson, S.F.	5	64	12.8	24	0
Tarver, Phil.	5	14	2.8	8	0
Snow, L.A.	4	86	21.5	42t	1
Miller, Minn.	4	35	8.8	32	0
Herrmann, N.O.	3	47	15.7	28	1
Pergine, Wash.	2	41	20.5	30t	1
Reed, Wash.	2	5	2.5	4t	2

INTERCEPTIONS

(2 or more—less, if 6 or more yards)

RECORDS

Most—14, Dick Lane, Los Angeles (1952)
 Most Yds.—301, Don Doll, Detroit (1949)
 Most TD's—3, Dick Lynch, Giants (1963)
 3, Herb Adderley, Green Bay (1965)
 3, Lem Barney, Detroit (1967)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Krause, Minn.	10	201	20.1	81	0
Lawrence, Atl.	9	163	18.1	87t	1
Thompson, St.L.	7	141	20.1	61t	1
Bryant, Minn.	6	111	18.5	41	0
Smith, Perry, G.B.	6	97	16.2	61	0
Simpson, L.A.	6	90	15.0	29	0
Jordan, Dall.	6	80	13.3	38	0
Wehrli, St.L.	6	31	5.2	31	0
Myers, N.O.	5	83	16.6	29	0
Bradley, Phil.	5	56	11.2	20	0
Barney, Det.	5	23	4.6	13	0
Outlaw, Phil.	5	23	4.6	23	0
LeMaster, Phil.	4	133	33.3	89t	1
Brown, Atl.	4	119	29.8	41t	1
Robertson, L.A.	4	118	29.5	76t	1
Bass, Wash.	4	85	21.3	30	0
Renfro, Dall.	4	70	17.5	22	0
Elmendorf, L.A.	4	48	12.0	26	0
Jauron, Det.	4	39	9.8	38	0
Brooks, N.Y.G.	4	38	9.5	38	0
Houston, Wash.	4	33	8.3	19	0
Washington, Dall.	4	26	6.5	23	0
Hayes, Atl.	4	16	4.0	7	0
Parker, Phil.	4	15	3.8	11	0
Brezina, Atl.	4	11	2.8	8	0
Hanburger, Wash.	3	81	27.0	37	0
Johnson, Det.	3	71	23.7	45	0
Crist, N.O.	3	69	23.0	42	0
McMillan, L.A.	3	64	21.3	31	0
Lavender, Phil.	3	59	19.7	36t	1
Harris, Dall.	3	58	19.3	27t	1
Waters, Dall.	3	55	18.3	35	1
Bergey, Phil.	3	48	16.0	20	0
Easterling, Atl.	3	32	10.7	15	0
Kelley, N.Y.G.	3	30	10.0	23	0
Taylor, S.F.	3	29	9.7	15	0
Carr, G.B.	3	28	9.3	21	0
Siemon, Minn.	3	24	8.0	14	0
Van Pelt, N.Y.G.	3	8	2.7	5	0
Reaves, St.L.	3	7	2.3	9	0
Fischer, Wash.	3	4	1.3	4	0
Powers, N.Y.G.	3	0	0.0	0	0
Clemons, Chi.	2	109	54.5	76t	1
Plank, Chi.	2	50	25.0	29	0
Jackson, N.O.	2	48	24.0	46	0
Matthews, G.B.	2	42	21.0	40	0
Stienke, N.Y.G.	2	41	20.5	27	0
Livers, Chi.	2	40	20.0	40t	1
Vanderbundt, S.F.	2	36	18.0	21	0
Brown, Minn.	2	33	16.5	18	0
Hughes, Dall.	2	33	16.5	33t	1
Barnes, St.L.	2	26	13.0	23	0
Lee, N.O.	2	22	11.0	19	0
Jackson, L.A.	2	23	6.5	10	0
Laslavic, Det.	2	12	6.0	10	0
Naumoff, Det.	2	11	5.5	9	0
Ellis, Chi.	2	4	2.0	4	0
Johnson, S.F.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Davis, Det.	1	67	67.0	67t	1
Johnson, Wash.	1	57	57.0	57	0
Hand, Det.	1	38	38.0	38	0
Allen, S.F.	1	37	37.0	37t	1
Schmidt, N.O.	1	37	37.0	37	0
Brown, Wash.	1	33	33.0	33	0
Weaver, Det.	1	31	31.0	31	0
McGill, S.F.	1	27	27.0	27	0
Owens, Wash.	1	25	25.0	25	0
Duren, St.L.	1	23	23.0	23	0
Weger, Det.	1	23	23.0	23	0
Westbrooks, N.O.	1	21	21.0	21	0
Dryer, L.A.	1	20	20.0	20t	1
Peterson, Dall.	1	19	19.0	19	0
Blair, Minn.	1	18	18.0	18	0
Rudolph, St.L.	1	18	18.0	18	0
Salter, Wash.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Blahak, Minn.	1	16	16.0	16	0
Babinecz, Chi.	1	15	15.0	15	0
Reynolds, L.A.	1	15	15.0	15	0
Kingrea, N.O.	1	14	14.0	14	0
Buffone, Chi.	1	12	12.0	12	0
Gray, G.B.	1	7	7.0	7	0
Arneson, St.L.	1	6	6.0	6	0
Bunting, Phil.	1	6	6.0	6	0
Nunley, S.F.	1	6	6.0	6	0
Spencer, N.O.	1	11	—	11t	0

t—Touchdown L—Lateral

HUEY'S DIAL-A-WINNER



Win With The Best!

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, Friday, November 12, 1971
 VOL. CLXXVIII NO. 95

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Wagering on Football

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'You've Got to Have Instinct'

By THOMAS P. HUEY
 and Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The voice on the telephone was urgent and enthusiastic. "This weekend I like the New York Giants over Atlanta in the pro," he said. "I've only five or six top picks a week, and the Giants are Atlanta is one of them."

The voice belongs to Huey, co-proprietor of Huey's Enterprises, of Fort Lee, N.J. The Giants are the team that he and his partner, Mike, think are most likely to beat the bookmakers' point spreads in football games this weekend. For such opinions, the partners' 160 customers pay an average of about \$50 a week during the football season.

Huey's somewhat three-year-old business, which he called a sports information service, is "up about" people who know about such things as the weather. Most have been turned to the last five years to capitalize on the growing popularity of Americans to wager on the outcome of college and pro football games.

Atlanta, Huey "bets" that the Giants are an "underrated" team with one of the toughest schedules in professional football. "If every one is healthy, the Giants will beat Atlanta," he says. "I think the top line on the game should be easy for the Giants. They have a home-field advantage. Atlanta has just Tommy Hudson, their star middle-lineman, for the rest of the year. Atlanta have running backs like to beat and Tucker, Fredrickson possibly returning after injuries, and Ryan, Van Brocklin. I feel strongly about this one."

They say that since he set up shop in 1968, he has placed all his customers are happy and quickly adds, "I have more of them going to the office than to my house."

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PUNTING

RECORDS

Most—96, John James, Atlanta (1974)
Best Avg.—51.4, Sammy Baugh, Washington (1940)
Longest—94 yds., Wilbur Henry, Canton (1923)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Bk.
Weaver, Det.	80	3361	42.0	61	1
Wittum, S.F.	67	2804	41.9	64	3
James, Atl.	89	3696	41.5	75	1
Clabo, Minn.	73	2997	41.1	62	2
Blanchard, N.O.	92	3776	41.0	61	3
Jennings, N.Y.G.	76	3107	40.9	64	0
Bragg, Wash.	72	2924	40.6	63	0
Jones, Phil.	68	2742	40.3	64	0
Carrell, L.A.	73	2874	39.4	57	0
Hoopes, Dall.	68	2676	39.4	55	1
Parsons, Chi.	93	3625	39.0	60	0
Beverly, Hou.-G.B.	78	2941	37.7	55	0
West, St.L.	64	2412	37.7	58	1
(Non-Qualifiers)					
Broussard, G.B.	29	922	31.8	51	3
Kersey, Phil.	15	489	32.6	50	0
Hunt, N.Y.G.	9	218	24.2	35	0

PUNT RETURNS

(4 or more)

RECORDS

Most—53, Alvin Haymond, Los Angeles (1970)
53, Larry Jones, Washington (1975)
Most Yds.—577, Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh (1974)
Longest—98 yards, Gil Le Febvre, Cinn. (1933)
Charley West, Minn. (1968)
Dennis Morgan, Dallas (1974)

	No.	FC.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Metcalf, St.L.	23	3	285	12.4	69t	1
Chapman, N.O.	17	3	207	12.2	42	0
Livers, Chi.	42	0	456	10.9	39	0
Taylor, S.F.	16	1	166	10.4	66	0
Richards, Dall.	28	13	288	10.3	43t	1
Marshall, Phil.	23	2	235	10.2	39	0
Moore, S.F.	16	0	160	10.0	17	0
West, Det.	22	8	219	10.0	43	0
McGill, S.F.	31	0	290	9.4	34	0
Colbert, N.Y.G.	27	1	238	8.8	65t	1
Elmendorf, L.A.	15	0	125	8.3	23	0
Herron, N.E.-Atl.	22	3	183	8.3	24	0
Scribner, L.A.	26	1	205	7.9	16	0
Jones, Wash.	53	5	407	7.7	52t	1
Bryant, Minn.	19	16	125	6.6	16	0
Harrell, G.B.	21	5	136	6.5	25	0
Buggs, N.Y.G.	19	4	93	4.9	34	0
(Non-Qualifiers)						
McCullum, Minn.	12	2	22	1.8	10	0
Bertelsen, L.A.	11	1	143	13.0	38	0
Schmidt, N.O.	11	0	76	6.9	17	0
Myers, N.O.	10	1	70	7.0	16	0
Hammond, St.L.	9	2	70	7.8	30	0
Barney, Det.	8	3	80	10.0	30	0
Brown, Clev.-Wash.	8	4	68	8.5	14	0
Morgan, Phil.	8	0	60	7.5	13	0
Eley, Atl.	7	0	61	8.7	15	0
Gray, St.L.	7	1	53	7.6	27	0
Jenkins, Atl.	6	0	38	6.3	15	0
Athas, Clev.-Minn.	6	3	37	6.2	16	0
Schubert, Chi.	6	1	33	5.5	16	0
Jauron, Det.	6	1	29	4.8	10	0
Ellis, G.B.	6	2	27	4.5	12	0
Tinker, Atl.	6	1	23	3.8	10	0
Woolsey, Dall.	4	2	25	6.3	15	0
Mabra, Atl.	4	1	20	5.0	15	0
Bradley, Phil.	4	3	4	1.0	6	0

KICKOFF RETURNS

(7 or more—less if TD)

RECORDS

Most—47, Larry Jones, Washington (1975)
Most Yds.—1314, Dave Hampton, Green Bay (1971)
Most TD's—4, Travis Williams, Green Bay (1967)
4, Cecil Turner, Chicago (1970)
Longest—106 yds., (TD), Al Carmichael, G.B. (1956)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Payton, Chi.	14	444	31.7	70	0
Metcalf, St.L.	35	960	27.4	93t	1
Thompson, Det.	22	565	25.7	42	0
Marshall, Phil.	22	557	25.3	33	0
Moore, S.F.	26	650	25.0	52	0
Odom, G.B.	42	1034	24.6	93t	1
Pearson, P., Dall.	16	391	24.4	42	0
Colbert, N.Y.G.	17	408	24.0	30	0
Kotar, N.Y.G.	17	405	23.8	64	0
McGee, L.A.	17	404	23.8	46	0
Johnson, S.F.	17	400	23.5	41	0
Jones, Wash.	47	1086	23.1	44	0
Buggs, N.Y.G.	16	353	22.1	43	0
Chapman, N.O.	28	614	21.9	36	0
McClanahan, Minn.	17	360	21.2	42	0
Livers, Chi.	26	529	20.3	40	0
Francis, Atl.	14	265	18.9	32	0
(Non-Qualifiers)					
Douthitt, Chi.	13	333	25.6	64	0
James, Phil.	13	311	23.9	38	0
Tinker, Atl.	13	307	23.6	33	0
Herron, N.E.-Atl.	13	264	20.3	40	0
Dennison, Dall.	13	262	20.2	27	0
Hommond, St.L.	13	254	19.5	29	0
Bryant, L.A.	12	280	23.3	42	0
McAlister, Phil.	12	278	23.2	42	0
Thompson, Det.	12	271	22.6	33	0
Woolsey, Dall.	12	247	20.6	29	0
McNeill, N.O.	10	276	27.6	88	0
McCullum, Minn.	9	221	24.6	63	0
Schubert, Chi.	9	146	16.2	25	0
Eley, Atl.	8	131	16.4	26	0
Morgan, Phil.	7	170	24.3	33	0
Henderson, Dall.	4	130	32.5	97t	1

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AFC RECORDS

SCORING

RECORDS

Points—155, Gino Cappelletti, Boston (1964)
TD's—23, O. J. Simpson, Buffalo (1975)
FG's—34, Jim Turner, N.Y. Jets (1968)
XP—64, George Blanda, Houston (1961)

	R.	Td.	P.	XP	FG	FGA	Tot. Pts.
Simpson, Buff.	16	7	0	0	0	0	138
Banaszak, Oak.	16	0	0	0	0	0	96
Stenerud, K.C.	0	0	0	30	22	32	96
Gerela, Pitt.	0	0	0	44	17	21	95
Mitchell, Balt.	11	4	0	0	0	0	90
Turner, Den.	0	0	0	23	21	28	86
Butler, Hou.	0	0	0	31	18	30	85
Blanda, Oak.	0	0	0	44	13	21	83
Linhart, Balt.	0	0	0	51	10	18	81
Yepremian, Mia.	0	0	0	40	13	16	79
Braxton, Buff.	9	4	0	0	0	0	78
Leyboldt, Buff.	0	0	0	51	9	16	78
Cockroft, Clev.	0	0	0	21	17	23	72
Nottingham, Mia.	12	0	0	0	0	0	72
Green, Cin.	0	0	0	40	10	21	70
Harris, Pitt.	10	1	0	0	0	0	66
Leahy, N.Y.J.	0	0	0	27	13	21	66
McCauley, Balt.	10	1	0	0	0	0	66
Swann, Pitt.	0	11	0	0	0	0	66
Bulaich, Mia.	5	5	0	0	0	0	60
Fritts, Cin.	8	2	0	0	0	0	60
Smith, N.E.	0	0	0	33	9	17	60
Wersching, S.D.	0	0	0	20	12	24	56
Branch, Oak.	0	9	0	0	0	0	54
Pruitt, Clev.	8	1	0	0	0	0	54
Riggins, N.Y.J.	8	1	0	0	0	0	54
Burrough, Hou.	0	8	0	0	0	0	48
Cunningham, N.L.	6	2	0	0	0	0	48
Curtis, Cin.	0	7	0	0	0	0	42
Hill, Buff.	0	7	0	0	0	0	42
Chandler, Buff.	0	6	0	0	0	0	36
Garrett, N.Y.J.	5	1	0	0	0	0	36
Green, K.C.	5	1	0	0	0	0	36
Vataha, N.E.	0	6	0	0	0	0	36
Young, S.D.	5	1	0	0	0	0	36
Barkum, N.Y.J.	0	5	0	0	0	0	30
Coleman, Hou.	5	0	0	0	0	0	30
Davis, Oak.	4	1	0	0	0	0	30
Hardeman, Hou.	5	0	0	0	0	0	30
Johnson, Hou.	4	1	0	0	0	0	30
Joiner, Cin.	0	5	0	0	0	0	30
Podolak, K.C.	3	2	0	0	0	0	30
Alston, Hou.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Bell, N.Y.J.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Bradshaw, M. Oak.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Caster, N.Y.J.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Clark, Cin.	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
Collier, Pitt.	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
Dolbin, Den.	1	3	0	0	0	0	24
Doughty, Balt.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Elliott, Cin.	1	3	0	0	0	0	24
Francis, N.E.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Hart, Oak.	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
Johnson, N.E.	3	1	0	0	0	0	24
Keyworth, Den.	3	1	0	0	0	0	24
Little, Den.	2	2	0	0	0	0	24
Lynch, Den.	3	1	0	0	0	0	24
Mandich, Mia.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
McKinnis, Clev.	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
Moore, Mia.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Morris, Mia.	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
Odums, Den.	1	3	0	0	0	0	24
Olds, Balt.	2	2	0	0	0	0	24
Stallworth, Pitt.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Twilley, Mia.	0	4	0	0	0	0	24
Bradshaw, T. Pitt.	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
Chester, Balt.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Grogan, N.E.	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
Harrison, Pitt.	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
Jones, Balt.	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
Malone, Mia.	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
Masters, K.C.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Matthews, S.D.	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
McDonald, S.D.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Myers, Cin.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Pearson, K.C.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Roan, Clev.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Rucker, Clev.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Solomon, Mia.	1	2	0	0	0	0	18
Upchurch, Den.	1	2	0	0	0	0	18
van Eeghen, Oak.	2	1	0	0	0	0	18
White, K.C.	0	3	0	0	0	0	18
Williams, Cin.	2	1	0	0	0	0	18
Anderson, Cin.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Biletnikoff, Oak.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Bleier, Pitt.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Brunson, K.V.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Calhoun, N.E.	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
Carr, Balt.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Fouts, S.D.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Gant, Buff.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Garrison, S.D.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Hubbard, Oak.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Johnson, Cin.	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
Johnson, Balt.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Kinney, K.C.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Lane, K.C.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Lewis, Pitt.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Livingston, K.C.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Moses, Den.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Reaves, Cin.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Scarber, S.D.	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
Stingley, N.E.	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Wallace, Balt.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Willis, Hou.	2	0	0	0	0	0	12

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Baker, S.D.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Bankston, Oak.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Boozier, N.Y.J.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Brisler, N.Y.J.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Brown, Clev.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Brown, Pitt.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Carter, N.E.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Casper, Oak.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Cobb, Cin.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Cook, Balt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Culp, Hou.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Davis, N.Y.J.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Domres, Balt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Dressler, K.C.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Ferguson, Buff.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Freeman, Buff.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Fuller, S.D.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Fuqua, Pitt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Garrett, Pitt.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Germany, Hou.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Gradishar, Den.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Gresham, N.Y.J.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Griesse, Mia.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Grossman, Pitt.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Hall, Clev.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Hamilton, N.E.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Hill, Clev.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Holland, Buff.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Howard, N.E.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Kadish, Buff.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Kennedy, Balt.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
LaGrand, K.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Leaks, Balt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Matuszak, K.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Miller, C., Clev.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Miller, W., Clev.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Mullins, Pitt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Munsey, Balt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Pastorini, Hou.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Phillips, Oak.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Plunkett, N.E.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Riley, Cin.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Sawyer, Hou.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Seymour, Buff.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Smith, Den.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Strock, Mia.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Thomas, Pitt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Toomay, Buff.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Trumpy, Cin.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Van Heusen, Den.	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
White, Balt.	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Curran, S.D.	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

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RECORDS

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Most Yds.—2003, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1973)
Most TD's—16, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1975)
16, Pete Banaszak, Oakland (1975)

	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Simpson, Buff.	329	1817	5.5	88t	16
Harris, Pitt.	262	1246	4.8	36	10
Mitchell, Balt.	289	1193	4.1	70t	11
Pruitt, Clev.	217	1067	4.9	50	8
Riggins, N.Y.J.	238	1005	4.2	42	8
Morris, Mia.	219	875	4.0	49	4
Braxton, Buff.	186	823	4.4	29	9
Coleman, Hou.	172	790	4.5	46t	5
Keyworth, Den.	182	725	4.0	34	3
Nottingham, Mia.	188	718	4.3	56	12
Banaszak, Oak.	187	672	3.6	27t	16
Cunningham, N.E.	169	666	3.9	17	6
Hardeman, Hou.	166	648	3.9	39	5
Green, K.C.	167	611	3.7	42	5
van Eeghen, Oak.	136	597	4.4	22	2
Clark, Cin.	167	594	3.6	17	4
Young, S.D.	138	577	4.2	48t	5
Garrett, N.Y.J.	122	566	4.6	40	2
Bleier, Pitt.	140	528	3.8	17	2
Johnson, N.E.	117	488	4.2	66t	4
Davis, Oak.	112	486	4.3	19	2
Little, Den.	125	445	3.6	23	2
Willis, Hou.	118	420	3.6	23	2
Fritts, Cin.	94	375	4.0	22	3
Podolak, K.C.	102	351	3.4	25	3
Jones, Balt.	47	321	6.8	38	3
Woods, S.D.	87	317	3.6	17	2
Lane, K.C.	79	311	3.9	39	3
Bulaich, Mia.	78	308	4.3	27	1
Elliott, Cin.	71	304	3.6	20	1
Kinney, K.C.	85	304	3.6	20	1
Phillips, Oak.	63	298	4.7	66	2
Hubbard, Oak.	60	294	4.9	53	2
Davis, N.Y.J.	70	290	4.1	24	1
Fuqua, Pitt.	74	285	3.9	18	1
Olds, Balt.	94	281	3.0	14	2
McKinnis, Clev.	71	259	3.6	14	4
Matthews, S.D.	71	254	3.6	24	3
Malone, Mia.	65	220	3.4	21	3
Lynch, Den.	57	218	3.8	20	3
Bradshaw, Pitt.	35	210	6.0	27	3
Pritchett, Clev.	75	199	2.7	19	0
McCauley, Balt.	60	196	3.3	18	10
Harrison, Pitt.	43	191	4.4	17	3
Anderson, Cin.	49	188	3.8	29	2
Cathoun, Buff.-N.E.	42	184	4.4	38t	1
Johnson, Cin.	58	177	3.1	15	1
Leaks, Balt.	41	175	4.3	17	1



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	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.		No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Hart, Oak.	56	173	3.1	19	3	Vataha, N.E.	46	720	15.7	47	6
Fouts, S.D.	23	170	7.4	32	2	Curran, S.D.	45	619	13.8	39	0
Armstrong, Den.	31	155	5.0	33	0	Curtis, Cin.	44	934	21.2	55	7
Williams, Cin.	35	136	3.9	19	2	Pruitt, Clev.	44	299	6.8	48	1
Baker, S.D.	42	131	3.1	18	1	Bilentinikoff, Oak.	43	587	13.7	26	2
Collier, Pitt.	21	124	5.9	23	3	Clark, Cin.	32	334	8.0	27	0
Ross, Den.	42	121	2.9	21	0	Keyworth, Den.	42	314	7.5	19t	1
Bonner, S.D.	28	120	4.3	12	0	Roan, Clev.	41	463	11.3	31	3
Poole, Clev.	17	114	6.7	26	0	Moore, Mia.	40	705	17.6	79t	4
Grogan, N.E.	30	110	3.7	14	3	Odums, Den.	40	544	13.6	43	3
Gresham, N.Y.J.	25	98	3.9	16	1	Doughty, Balt.	39	666	17.1	63	4
Upchurch, Den.	16	97	6.1	15	1	Chester, Balt.	38	457	12.0	32	3
Pastorini, Hou.	23	97	4.2	19	1	Joiner, Cin.	37	726	19.6	51	5
Carter, N.E.	22	95	4.3	19	0	Johnson, Hou.	37	393	10.6	30	1
Brunson, K.C.	2	89	44.5	65	0	Podolak, K.C.	37	332	9.0	21	2
Solomon, Mia.	4	87	21.8	35	0	Hill, Buff.	36	667	18.5	77t	7
Ferguson, Buff.	23	82	3.6	17	1	Pearson, K.C.	36	608	16.9	45	3
Marangi, Buff.	7	78	11.1	30	0	Barkum, N.Y.J.	36	549	15.3	56	5
Ginn, Mia.	21	78	3.7	14	0	Myers, Cin.	36	527	14.6	34t	3
Douglass, Chi.-S.D.	15	76	5.1	18	1	Francis, N.E.	35	636	18.2	48	4
Dolbin, Den.	5	72	14.4	25	0	Bulaich, Mia.	32	276	8.6	59t	5
Phipps, Clev.	18	70	3.9	12	0	Cunningham, N.E.	32	253	7.9	24	2
Moore, Mia.	8	69	8.6	36	0	Riggins, N.Y.J.	30	363	12.1	34	1
Livingston, K.C.	13	68	5.2	28	1	Olds, Balt.	30	194	6.5	28t	2
Scarber, S.D.	15	68	4.5	18	1	Moses, Den.	29	505	17.4	42	2
Sipe, Clev.	9	60	6.7	21	0	Little, Den.	29	308	10.6	66t	2
Jones, N.Y.J.	9	59	6.6	19	0	Simpson, Buff.	28	426	15.2	64t	7
Greise, Mia.	17	59	3.5	17	1	Harris, Pitt.	28	214	7.6	44t	1
Freitas, S.D.	11	56	5.1	17	0	Garrison, S.D.	27	438	16.2	40	2
Rodgers, Hou.	18	55	3.1	8	1	Johnson, N.E.	26	294	11.3	23	1
Boozier, N.Y.J.	20	51	2.6	8	0	Braxton, Buff.	26	282	10.8	32	4
Washington, Buff.	9	49	5.4	9	0	Lane, K.C.	25	202	8.1	31	0
Hufnagel, Den.	8	47	5.9	13	0	Johnson, Cin.	25	196	7.8	30	1
McQuay, N.E.	33	47	1.4	9	0	Twilley, Mia.	24	366	15.3	32	4
Domres, Balt.	4	46	11.5	20t	1	Masters, K.C.	24	314	13.1	32	3
Brown, Clev.	16	45	2.8	8	1	White, K.C.	23	559	24.3	69t	3
Adams, K.C.	8	42	5.3	16	0	Carr, Balt.	23	517	22.5	90t	2
Holmes, Hou.	19	42	2.2	11	0	Brunson, K.C.	23	398	17.3	36	2
Stingley, N.E.	6	39	6.5	21	0	Green, K.C.	23	215	9.3	28	1
Ramsey, Den.	6	38	6.3	17	0	Dolbin, Den.	22	421	19.1	41	3
Strock, Mia.	6	38	6.3	18	1	Solomon, Mia.	22	339	15.4	58t	2
Hynoski, Clev.	7	38	5.4	11	0	Trumpy, Cin.	22	276	12.5	35t	1
Henson, Cin.	11	38	3.5	8	0	Stingley, N.E.	21	378	18.0	45	2
LaGrand, K.C.	13	38	2.9	11	1	Holden, Clev.	21	320	15.2	28	0
Lewis, Pitt.	2	36	18.0	24	0	Mandich, Mia.	21	217	10.3	32t	4
Morrall, Mia.	4	33	8.3	16	0	Young, S.D.	21	166	7.9	16	1
Garrison, S.D.	3	30	10.0	20	0	Kinney, K.C.	21	148	7.0	18	0
Hayman, Buff.	10	30	3.0	3	0	Stallworth, Pitt.	20	423	21.2	59	4
Odums, Den.	5	27	5.4	12	0	Bell, N.Y.J.	20	344	17.2	38	4
Carter, Oak.	11	27	2.5	11	0	Elliot, Cin.	20	196	9.8	31	3
Van Heusen, Den.	2	26	13.0	24	0	Willis, Hou.	20	104	5.2	20	0
Dressler, N.E.-K.C.	6	24	4.0	11	0	McDonald, S.D.	19	298	15.7	57	3
Miller, K.C.-Clev.	13	23	1.8	10	1	Seymour, Buff.	19	268	14.1	32	1
Reaves, Cin.	6	13	2.2	9	2	Garrett, N.Y.J.	19	180	9.5	20	1
Plunkett, N.E.	4	7	1.8	5	1	Moore, Oak.	19	175	9.2	21	0

PASS RECEIVING

(4 or more—less if TD)

RECORDS

Most caught—101, Ch. Hennigan, Houston (1964)
 Most yds.—1746, Ch. Hennigan, Houston (1961)
 Most Pass TD's—17, Bill Groman, Houston (1961)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Rucker, Clev.	60	770	12.8	40t	3
Mitchell, Balt.	60	544	9.1	35t	4
Chandler, Buff.	55	746	13.6	35	6
Burrough, Hou.	53	1063	20.1	77t	8
Branch, Oak.	51	893	17.5	53	9
Swann, Pitt.	49	781	15.9	43t	11
Caster, N.Y.J.	47	820	17.4	91	4

PASSING

RECORDS

Most completions—262, George Blanda, Houston (1964)
 Most TD's—36, George Blanda, Houston (1961)
 Most Yds.—4007, Joe Namath, N.Y. Jets (1967)
 Longest—98 yds. (TD), Jack Lee, Houston, to Deweall (1962)

AFC INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS

	Atts.	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	Avg.	Tds.	Long	Had	Pct.
Anderson, Cin.	377	228	60.5	3169	8.41	21	55	11	2.9
Dawson, K.C.	140	93	66.4	1095	7.82	5	51	4	2.9
Jones, Balt.	344	203	59.0	2483	7.22	18	90t	8	2.3
Bradshaw, Pitt.	286	165	57.7	2055	7.19	18	59	9	3.1
Grise, Mia.	191	118	61.8	1693	8.86	14	79t	13	6.8
Ferguson, Buff.	321	169	52.6	2426	7.56	25	77t	17	5.3
Livingston, K.C.	176	88	50.0	1245	7.07	8	69t	6	3.4
Stabler, Oak.	293	171	58.4	2296	7.84	16	53	24	8.2
Ramsey, Den.	233	128	54.9	1562	6.70	9	66t	14	6.0
Pastorini, Hou.	342	163	47.7	2053	6.00	14	77t	16	4.7
Grogan, N.E.	274	139	50.7	1976	7.21	11	62t	18	6.6
Fouts, S.D.	195	106	54.4	1396	7.16	2	57	10	5.1
Namath, N.Y.J.	326	157	48.2	2286	7.01	15	91	28	8.6
Phipps, Clev.	313	162	51.8	1749	5.59	4	48	19	6.1
Johnson, Den.	142	65	45.8	1021	7.19	5	90t	12	8.5
(Non-Qualifiers)									
Domres, Balt.	10	8	80.0	123	12.30	1	32	0	0.0
Morrall, Mia.	43	26	60.5	273	6.35	3	31	2	4.7
Gilliam, Pitt.	48	24	50.0	450	9.38	3	53	3	6.3
Humm, Oak.	38	18	47.4	246	6.47	3	43	2	5.3
Marangi, Buff.	33	13	39.4	235	7.12	3	64t	2	6.1
Strock, Mia.	45	26	57.8	230	5.11	2	25	2	4.4
Reaves, Cin.	51	25	49.0	297	5.82	2	51	3	5.9
Freitas, S.D.	110	49	44.5	525	4.77	5	42	5	4.5
Gaff, N.E.	35	18	51.4	221	6.31	2	31t	3	8.6
Sipe, Clev.	88	45	51.1	427	4.85	1	22	3	3.4
Adams, K.C.	77	36	46.8	445	5.78	2	32	4	5.2
Plunkett, N.E.	92	36	39.1	571	6.21	3	76	7	7.6
Cureton, Clev.	32	10	31.3	95	2.97	1	16	1	3.1
Hufnagel, Clev.	51	16	31.4	287	5.63	1	80t	8	15.7
Lawrence, Oak	15	5	33.3	50	3.33	0	17	1	6.7
Douglass, Chi.-S.D.	47	15	31.9	140	2.98	0	34	3	6.4
Jones, N.Y.J.	57	16	28.1	181	3.18	1	20	5	8.8
(Less than 10 attempts—but TD)									
Miller, Clev.	1	1	100.0	26	26.0	1	26t	0	0.0

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	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Davis, Oak.	11	126	11.5	31t	1
Coslet, Cin.	10	117	11.7	18	0
Williams, Cin.	10	96	9.6	20	1
Seiple, Mia.	10	84	8.4	15	0
Banaszak, Oak.	10	64	6.4	11	0
Grant, Buff.	9	107	11.9	19t	2
Nottingham, Mia.	9	66	7.3	18	0
Matthews, S.D.	9	59	6.6	22	0
Sweet, S.D.	8	147	18.4	52	0
Bradshaw, Oak.	7	180	25.7	48t	4
Holland, Buff.	7	144	20.6	63	1
Sawyer, Hou.	7	144	20.6	51	1
Hubbard, Oak.	7	81	11.6	16	0
Piccone, N.Y.J.	7	79	11.3	21	0
Ross, Den.	7	69	9.9	30	0
Miller, Clev.	7	57	8.1	17	0
Burks, N.E.	6	158	26.3	76	0
Fritts, Cin.	6	63	10.5	17t	2
Windsor, N.E.	6	57	9.5	12	0
Davis, N.Y.J.	6	56	9.3	18	0
Lynch, Den.	6	33	5.5	19	1
Baker, S.D.	6	27	4.5	7	0
Hart, Oak.	6	27	4.5	15	0
Calhoun, N.E.	5	111	22.2	62t	1
Casper, Oak.	5	71	14.2	20	1
Tillman, Mia.	5	60	12.0	16	0
Jackson, N.Y.J.	5	54	10.8	14	0
Herron, N.E.	5	50	10.0	19	0
Hardeman, Hou.	5	10	2.0	9	0
Johnson, Balt.	4	115	28.8	68t	2
Wright, N.E.	4	46	11.5	20	0
Hynoski, Clev.	4	31	7.8	15	0
McQuay, N.E.	4	27	6.8	16	0
Phillips, Oak.	4	25	6.3	22	0
Dressler, N.E.-K.C.	3	6	2.0	4	1
Bankston, Oak.	2	21	10.5	13	1
Kennedy, Balt.	2	15	7.5	12	1
Boozer, N.Y.J.	1	16	16.0	16t	1

INTERCEPTIONS

(2 or more—less if touchdown)

RECORDS

Most—12, Fred Glick, Houston (1963)

12, Dainard Paulson, Jets (1964)

12, Emmitt Thomas, Kansas City (1974)

Most Yds.—349, Charlie McNeil, San Diego (1961)

Most TD's—4, Ken Houston, Houston (1971)

4, Jim Kearney, Kansas City (1972)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Blount, Pitt.	11	121	11.0	47	0
White, Balt.	8	135	16.9	32	1
Harrison, Buff.	8	99	12.4	40	0
Thomas, K.C.	6	119	19.8	36	0
Fletcher, S.D.	6	100	16.7	45	0
Thomas, Oak.	6	86	14.3	48	0
Greene, Buff.	6	81	13.5	37	0
Riley, Cin.	6	76	12.7	30t	1
Scott, Mia.	6	60	10.0	38	0
Phillips, Oak.	6	45	7.5	23	0
Moore, Hou.	5	137	27.4	74	0
Sensibaugh, K.C.	5	123	24.6	38	0
Lanier, K.C.	5	105	21.0	61	0
Jackson, Cin.	5	97	19.4	34	0
Bolton, N.E.	5	33	6.6	15	0
Atkins, Hou.	4	133	33.3	70	0
Wallace, Balt.	4	126	31.5	42t	2
Wagner, Pitt.	4	122	30.5	65	0
Cobb, Cin.	4	116	29.0	52t	1
Atkinson, Oak.	4	77	19.3	26	0
Tatum, Oak.	4	67	16.8	28	0
Williams, S.D.	4	67	16.8	40	0
Mumphord, Balt.	4	58	14.5	28	0
Bingham, Hou.	4	57	14.3	26	0
Johnson, Mia.	4	41	10.3	17	0
Colzie, Oak.	4	38	9.5	38	0
Babb, Mia.	4	18	4.5	18	0
Brown, Oak.	4	—	—	0	0
Gradishar, Den.	3	77	25.7	44t	1
Edwards, Pitt.	3	68	22.7	47	0
Howard, N.E.	3	52	17.3	44t	1
Laird, Balt.	3	46	15.3	28	0
Thomas, Pitt.	3	44	14.7	33	0
Alexander, Hou.	3	41	13.7	32	0
Reardon, K.C.	3	40	13.3	28	0
Munsey, Balt.	3	36	12.0	30t	1
Matheson, Mia.	3	32	10.7	22	0
Washington, Hou.	3	30	10.0	23	0
Leclair, Cin.	3	25	8.3	21	0
Jones, Buff.	3	13	4.3	13	0
Owens, N.Y.J.	3	3	1.0	3	0
Thompson, Den.	2	97	48.5	49	0
Thomas, Buff.	2	74	37.0	58	0
Thomas, Den.	2	66	33.0	36	0
Blackwood, Cin.	2	44	22.0	40	0
Freeman, Buff.	2	44	22.0	30t	1
Hendricks, Oak.	2	40	20.0	33	0
Lambert, Pitt.	2	35	17.5	24	0
Villapiano, Oak.	2	32	16.0	19	0
Hall, Clev.	2	28	14.0	19	0
Oldham, Balt.	2	23	11.5	13	0
Ebersole, N.Y.J.	2	21	10.5	18	0
Turk, N.Y.J.	2	20	10.0	12	0
Howell, N.Y.J.	2	19	9.5	10	0
Wise, N.Y.J.	2	17	8.5	14	0
Germany, Hou.	2	15	7.5	15	0
Colbert, S.D.	2	10	5.0	10	0
Wright, Den.	2	9	4.5	9	0
Cheyunski, Balt.	2	8	4.0	6	0
Nelson, N.E.	2	8	4.0	4	0
Kiner, Hou.	2	7	3.5	7	0
Graham, S.D.	2	5	2.5	4	0
Scott, Clev.	2	4	2.0	4	0
Rhone, Mia.	2	2	1.0	2	0
Allen, Pitt.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Jackson, Den.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Hill, Clev.	1	56	56.0	56t	1
Toomay, Buff.	1	44	44.0	44t	1

1976 NFL SCHEDULE

PUNTING

RECORDS

Most—105, Bob Scarpitto, Denver (1967)
Best Avg.—46.2, Dave Lewis, Cin. (1970)
Longest—98 yds., Steve O'Neal, N.Y. Jets (1969)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Blk.	C.C.
Guy, Oak.	68	2979	43.8	64	0	6
Bateman, Buff.	61	2536	41.6	74	2	4
Wilson, K.C.	54	2233	41.4	64	1	5
Cockroft, Clev.	82	3317	40.5	67	1	7
Van Heusen, Den.	63	2515	39.9	64	0	2
Lee, Balt.	86	3402	39.6	62	1	5
Pastorini, Hou.	62	2447	39.5	68	0	4
Walden, Pitt.	69	2717	39.4	67	1	9
Green, Cin.	68	2655	39.0	57	1	4
Patrick, N.E.	83	3223	38.8	62	0	8
Seiple, Mia.	65	2506	38.6	61	0	4
Pardee, S.D.	79	2910	36.8	56	1	7
Gantt, N.Y.J.	59	2156	36.5	71	3	5
McCann, K.C.	14	493	35.2	52	1	1
Dressler, K.C.	4	100	25.0	30	0	0

CC—Coffin corner punts that go out of bounds, downed, fair-caught, between opponents' goal and 10-yard line, or are not returned past the 10-yard line.

PUNT RETURNS

(6 or more)

RECORDS

Most—48, Neal Colzie, Oakland (1975)
Most Yds.—655, Neal Colzie, Oakland (1975)
Longest—95 yds., Les Duncan, San Diego (1968)

	No.	FC.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Johnson, Hou.	40	1	612	15.3	83t	3
Colzie, Oak.	48	3	655	13.6	64	0
Solomon, Mia.	26	4	320	12.3	50t	1
Upchurch, Den.	27	4	312	11.6	51	0
Fuller, S.D.	36	0	410	11.4	52	1
Stevens, Balt.	36	8	396	11.0	53	0
Edwards, Pitt.	25	3	267	10.7	25	0
Brown, Pitt.	22	9	217	9.9	48	0
Hayman, Buff.	25	8	216	8.6	30	0
Stingley, N.E.	15	2	113	7.5	29	0
Blackwood, Cin.	23	0	123	5.3	31	0
Piccone, N.Y.J.	18	7	74	4.1	9	0

(Non-Qualifiers)

Thompson, Den.	13	1	158	12.2	24	0
Pruitt, Clev.	13	1	130	10.0	30	0
Podolak, K.C.	13	5	96	7.4	23	0
Parrish, Cin.	13	1	83	6.4	34	0
Thomas, K.C.	12	1	112	9.3	34	0
Casanova, Cin.	11	2	60	5.5	12	0
Miller, Clev.	10	0	47	4.7	23	0
Moore, Mia.	8	2	80	10.0	29	0
Atkinson, Oak.	8	1	33	4.1	12	0
Babb, Mia.	7	4	95	13.6	46	0
Swann, Pitt.	7	1	64	9.1	21	0
Holland, Buff.	7	5	53	7.6	13	0
Johnson, N.E.	6	4	60	10.0	15	0
Wallace, Balt.	6	0	43	7.2	14	0
Poole, Clev.	6	0	35	5.8	11	0

KICKOFF RETURNS

(6 or more)

RECORDS

Most—47, Odell Barry, Denver (1964)
Most Yds.—1317, Bobby Jancik, Houston (1963)
Most TDs.—2, Leon Burton, N.Y. Jets (1960)
2, Wallace Francis, Buffalo (1973)
Longest—106 yds. (TD), Noland Smith, K.C. (1967)

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	Tds.
Hart, Oak.	17	518	30.5	102t	1
Carter, N.E.	32	879	27.5	99t	1
Upchurch, Den.	40	1084	27.1	58	0
Washington, Buff.	35	923	26.4	59	0
Laird, Balt.	31	799	25.8	65	0
Piccone, N.Y.J.	26	637	24.5	53	0
Johnson, Hou.	33	798	24.2	81t	1
Davis, N.Y.J.	20	483	24.2	46	0
Collier, Pitt.	22	523	23.8	94t	1
Jackson, Cin.	25	587	23.5	39	0
Thomas, K.C.	22	516	23.5	43	0
Fuller, S.D.	31	725	23.4	34	0
Pruitt, Clev.	14	302	21.6	40	0
Young, S.D.	15	323	21.5	34	0
Green, K.C.	16	343	21.4	50	0
Solomon, Mia.	17	348	20.5	31	0
Little, Den.	16	307	19.2	32	0
McQuay, N.E.	15	252	16.8	34	0

(Non-Qualifiers)

Lefear, Clev.	13	412	31.7	92	0
Elliott, Cin.	13	272	20.9	46	0
Phillips, Oak.	12	310	25.8	39	0
Miller, K.C.-Clev.	12	241	20.1	31	0
Craig, K.C.	10	247	24.7	53	0
Cotney, Hou.	10	189	18.9	32	0
Johnson, N.E.	10	188	18.8	32	0
Davis, Oak.	9	268	29.8	64	0
Moore, Mia.	9	243	27.0	42	0
Ginn, Mia.	9	235	26.1	39	0
Smith, S.D.	8	222	27.8	41	0
Hynoski, Clev.	8	194	24.3	37	0
Hayman, Buff.	8	179	22.4	34	0
Coleman, Hou.	8	149	18.6	27	0
Blount, Pitt.	8	139	17.4	23	0
Garrett, N.Y.J.	7	159	22.7	33	0
Gresham, N.Y.J.	7	153	21.9	34	0
Taylor, N.Y.J.	7	151	21.6	36	0
Johnson, Balt.	7	134	19.1	30	0
Brown, Clev.	7	126	18.0	29	0
van Eeghen, Oak.	7	112	16.0	20	0
McKinney, Buff.	6	151	25.2	37	0
Brown, Pitt.	6	126	21.0	25	0
Brown, Clev.	6	126	21.0	27	0
Athas, Clev.	6	95	15.8	23	0
Andrews, S.D.	6	93	15.5	27	0

ALL TIMES LOCAL TV—National Television

SEPT.	TIME
12—Baltimore at New England	1:00
Denver at Cincinnati	1:00
Detroit at Chicago	1:00
Los Angeles at Atlanta	1:00
Minnesota at New Orleans	1:00
New York Giants at Washington	1:00
New York Jets at Cleveland	1:00
Philadelphia at Dallas	1:00
Pittsburgh at Oakland	1:00
St. Louis at Seattle	1:00
San Diego at Kansas City	1:00
San Francisco at Green Bay	1:00
Tampa Bay at Houston	1:00
13—Miami at Buffalo	9:00
19—Atlanta at Detroit	9:00
Chicago at San Francisco	1:00
Cincinnati at Baltimore	2:00
Cleveland at Pittsburgh	1:00
Dallas at New Orleans	1:00
Green Bay at St. Louis	1:00
Houston at Buffalo	1:00
Los Angeles at Minnesota	3:00
Miami at New England	1:00
New York Giants at Philadelphia	1:00
New York Jets at Denver	2:00
San Diego at Tampa Bay	1:00
Seattle at Washington	1:00
20—Oakland at Kansas City	8:00
26—Atlanta at Chicago	1:00
Baltimore at Dallas	3:00
Buffalo at Tampa Bay	1:00
Cleveland at Denver	2:00
Green Bay at Cincinnati	1:00
Minnesota at Detroit	1:00
New England at Pittsburgh	1:00
New Orleans at Kansas City	1:00
New York Giants at Los Angeles	1:00
New York Jets at Miami	1:00
Oakland at Houston	1:00
St. Louis at San Diego	1:00
San Francisco at Seattle	1:00
27—Washington at Philadelphia	9:00
OCT.	
3—Cincinnati at Cleveland	1:00
Dallas at Seattle	1:00
Detroit at Green Bay	1:00
Houston at New Orleans	1:00
Kansas City at Buffalo	1:00
Los Angeles at Miami	4:00
New York Giants at St. Louis	1:00
New York Jets at San Francisco	1:00
Oakland at New England	1:00
Philadelphia at Atlanta	1:00
San Diego at Denver	2:00
Tampa Bay at Baltimore	2:00
Washington at Chicago	1:00
4—Pittsburgh at Minnesota	8:00
10—Atlanta at New Orleans	1:00
Buffalo at New York Jets	1:00
Chicago at Minnesota	1:00
Dallas at New York Giants	1:00
Denver at Houston	1:00
Kansas City at Washington	1:00
Miami at Baltimore	4:00
New England at Detroit	1:00
Oakland at San Diego	1:00
Pittsburgh at Cleveland	1:00
St. Louis at Philadelphia	1:00
Seattle vs. Green Bay at Milw.	1:00
Tampa Bay at Cincinnati	1:00
11—San Francisco at Los Angeles	8:00
17—Baltimore at Buffalo	1:00
Chicago at Los Angeles	1:00
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	1:00
Cleveland at Atlanta	1:00
Dallas at St. Louis	3:00
Detroit at Washington	1:00
Houston at San Diego	1:00
Kansas City at Miami	1:00
New Orleans at San Francisco	1:00
New York Giants at Minnesota	1:00
Oakland at Denver	2:00
Philadelphia at Green Bay	1:00
Seattle at Tampa Bay	1:00
18—New York Jets at New England	9:00
23—Atlanta at San Francisco	7:00
24—Baltimore at New York Jets	1:00
Chicago at Dallas	1:00
Cincinnati at Houston	3:00
Denver at Kansas City	1:00
Detroit at Seattle	1:00
Green Bay at Oakland	1:00
Los Angeles at New Orleans	1:00
Miami at Tampa Bay	1:00
Minnesota at Philadelphia	1:00
New England at Buffalo	1:00
Pittsburgh at New York Giants	1:00
St. Louis at Cleveland	1:00
25—St. Louis at Washington	9:00
31—Cleveland at Cincinnati	1:00
Dallas at Washington	4:00
Denver at Oakland	1:00
Green Bay at Tampa Bay	1:00
Kansas City at Tampa Bay	1:00
Minnesota at Chicago	1:00
New England at Miami	1:00
New Orleans at Atlanta	1:00
New York Jets at Buffalo	1:00
Philadelphia at New York Giants	1:00
San Diego at Pittsburgh	1:00
San Francisco at St. Louis	1:00
Seattle at Los Angeles	1:00

NOV.

1—Houston at Baltimore	ABC-TV	9:00
7—Atlanta at Seattle		1:00
Baltimore at San Diego		1:00
Buffalo at New England		1:00
Cleveland at Houston		1:00
Detroit at Minnesota		3:00
Miami at New York Jets		1:00
New Orleans vs. Green Bay at Milw.		1:00
New York Giants at Dallas		1:00
Oakland at Chicago		1:00
Philadelphia at St. Louis		12:00
Pittsburgh at Kansas City		1:00
Tampa Bay at Denver		2:00
Washington at San Francisco		1:00
8—Los Angeles at Cincinnati	ABC-TV	9:00
14—Green Bay at Chicago		1:00
Denver at San Diego		1:00
Detroit at New Orleans		1:00
Houston at Cincinnati		1:00
Kansas City at Oakland		1:00
Miami at Pittsburgh		4:00
New England at Baltimore		2:00
Philadelphia at Cleveland		1:00
St. Louis at Los Angeles		1:00
San Francisco at Atlanta		1:00
Seattle at Minnesota		1:00
Tampa Bay at New York Jets		1:00
Washington at New York Giants		1:00
15—Buffalo at Dallas	ABC-TV	8:00
21—Chicago at Detroit		1:00
Cincinnati at Kansas City		1:00
Cleveland at Tampa Bay		1:00
Dallas at Atlanta		1:00
Houston at Pittsburgh		1:00
Los Angeles at San Francisco		1:00
Minnesota vs. Green Bay at Milw.		1:00
New England at New York Jets		1:00
New Orleans at Seattle		1:00
New York Giants at Denver		2:00
Oakland at Philadelphia		1:00
San Diego at Buffalo		1:00
Washington at St. Louis		3:00
22—Baltimore at Miami	ABC-TV	9:00
25—(Thanksgiving Day)		
Buffalo at Detroit	NBC-TV	12:30
St. Louis at Dallas	CBS-TV	2:30
28—Atlanta at Houston		1:00
Denver at New England		1:00
Chicago at Green Bay		1:00
Kansas City at San Diego		1:00
Miami at Cleveland		1:00
New Orleans at Los Angeles		1:00
New York Jets at Baltimore		2:00
Philadelphia at Washington		1:00
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati		3:00
Seattle at New York Giants		1:00
Tampa Bay at Oakland		1:00
29—Minnesota at San Francisco	ABC-TV	6:00
DEC.		
4—Atlanta at Los Angeles	CBS-TV	12:30
Baltimore at St. Louis	NBC-TV	12:30
5—Buffalo at Miami		4:00
Chicago at Seattle		1:00
Dallas at Philadelphia		1:00
Detroit at New York Giants		1:00
Green Bay at Minnesota		1:00
Houston at Cleveland		1:00
Kansas City at Denver		2:00
New Orleans at New England		1:00
San Francisco at San Diego		1:00
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh		1:00
Washington at New York Jets		1:00
6—Cincinnati at Oakland	ABC-TV	6:00
11—Los Angeles at Detroit	ABC-TV	9:00
Minnesota at Miami	CBS-TV	1:00
Pittsburgh at Houston	NBC-TV	3:00
12—Buffalo at Baltimore		2:00
Cincinnati at New York Jets		1:00
Cleveland at Kansas City		1:00
Denver at Chicago		1:00
Green Bay at Atlanta		1:00
New England at Tampa Bay		1:00
St. Louis at New York Giants		1:00
San Diego at Oakland		1:00
Seattle at Philadelphia		1:00
Washington at Dallas		3:00

SUPER BOWL XI JANUARY 9, 1977

Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Cal.

DEC.	CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES	Network
18—AFC & NFC Division Playoffs		NBC-CBS
19—AFC & NFC Division Playoffs		NBC-CBS
26—AFC Championship Game		NBC
NFC Championship Game		CBS
JAN.		
17—AFC-NFC Pro Bowl Game, Seattle (N)		ABC
TV DOUBLEHEADER GAMES		
SEPT.		
12—Pittsburgh at Oakland	(NBC)	
19—Los Angeles at Minnesota	(CBS)	
26—Baltimore at Dallas	(NBC)	
OCT.		
3—Los Angeles at Miami	(CBS)	
10—Miami at Baltimore	(NBC)	
17—Dallas at St. Louis	(CBS)	
24—Green Bay at Oakland	(CBS)	
Cincinnati at Houston	(NBC)	
31—Dallas at Washington	(CBS)	
NOV.		
7—Detroit at Minnesota	(CBS)	
14—Miami at Pittsburgh	(NBC)	
21—Washington at St. Louis	(CBS)	
28—Pittsburgh at Cincinnati	(NBC)	
DEC.		
5—Buffalo at Miami	(NBC)	
12—Washington at Dallas	(CBS)	

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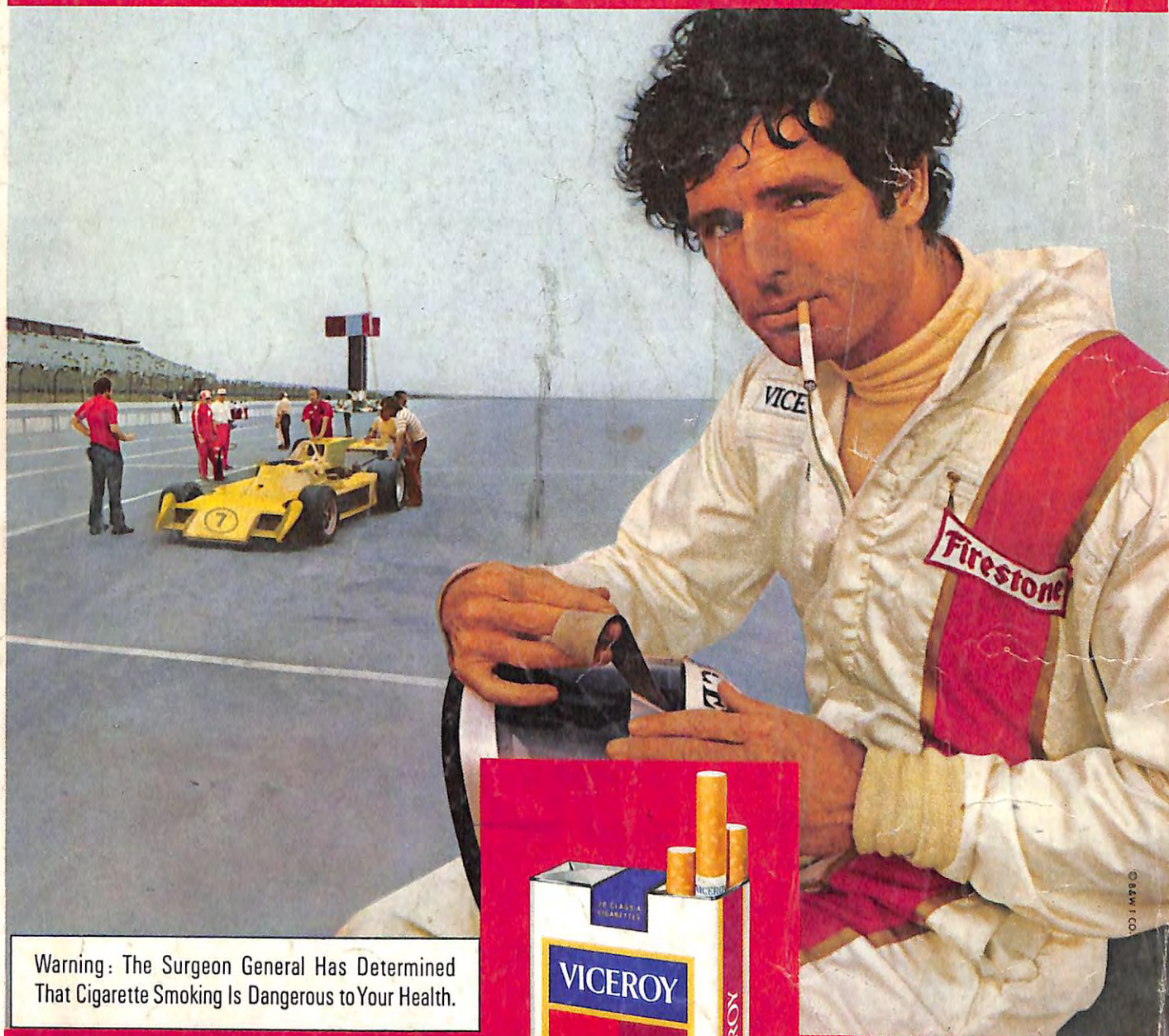
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